Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Unfortunately, most proposed alternatives in the PEIR fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in the Salton Sea area. The PEIR does, however, contain the components and information necessary to formulate a successful plan.

There are two things I really care about, my ability to breathe and feeding my feathered friends.

As a person with asthma air quality is vrey important to me. I live in the wonderful Utah mountains and have been unable to do the things that I enjoy, including sleeping, due to the bad air quality.

When I can breathe I love spending time in nature feeding the Canada geese that fly through here on a regular basis. I'm pretty sure that some of the hundreds of geese that I have personally fed find their way to CA, and therefore I want my geese to have a safe place to land and rest when they leave here. I want them to come back in the spring and nest here. I love holding the baby goslings. They are creatures of habit and they have their destinations picked out, if it changes it throws everything off.

Actually I also thought of a third thing, as a counselor I understand the need for the younger generations, especially, to be exposed to nature, to be able to connect with animals so that they can grow up to be healthy members of thier communities. don't take that away from them.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Andrea Henderson
650 Brittany Dr Apt 304
Murray, UT 84107-4037

AHenderson-1

Andrea Henderson (AHenderson)

AHenderson-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

AHenderson (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As an avid Birder, I feel it would be a detrement to the quality of human life and to the birds if we don't protect the Salton Sea in California. We can do nothing to deter migration and if the water bowls of the world are allowed to disperse, or be differed to another place, other than where our world intended it to be, we can onlt see where the bird populations will be impaled. Water is the most basic of needs for all creatures of the world. With urban sprawl, we are in constant need to correct our focus on " healthy world" thoughts. Please take all measures necessary to see that the Salton Sea continues to be. **CHammond-1**

Sincerely,

Carol Hammond
223 Buckingham Rd
Greenville, SC 29607-3005

Carol Hammond (CHammond)

CHammond-1

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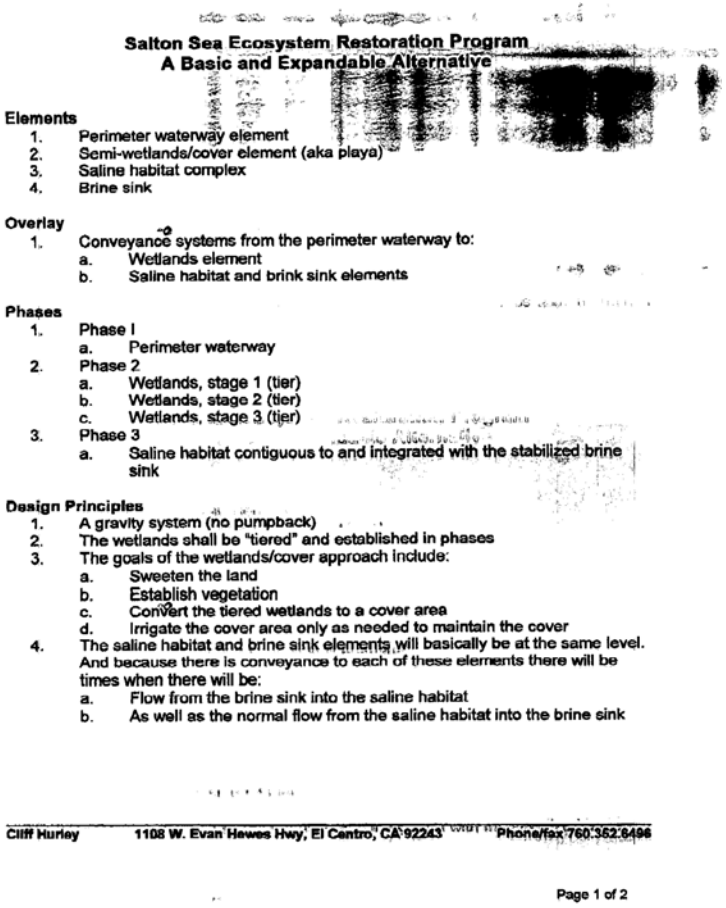

Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program
A Basic and Expandable Alternative

Elements
1. Perimeter waterway element
2. Semi-wetlands/cover element (aka playa)
3. Saline habitat complex
4. Brine sink

Overlay
1. Conveyance systems from the perimeter waterway to:
   a. Wetlands element
   b. Saline habitat and brink sink elements

Phases
1. Phase I
   a. Perimeter waterway
2. Phase 2
   a. Wetlands, stage 1 (tier)
   b. Wetlands, stage 2 (tier)
   c. Wetlands, stage 3 (tier)
3. Phase 3
   a. Saline habitat contiguous to and integrated with the stabilized brine sink

Design Principles
1. A gravity system (no pumpback)
2. The wetlands shall be "tiered" and established in phases
3. The goals of the wetlands/cover approach include:
   a. Sweeten the land
   b. Establish vegetation
   c. Convert the tiered wetlands to a cover area
   d. Irrigate the cover area only as needed to maintain the cover
4. The saline habitat and brine sink elements will basically be at the same level. And because there is conveyance to each of these elements there will be times when there will be:
   a. Flow from the brine sink into the saline habitat
   b. As well as the normal flow from the saline habitat into the brine sink

Cliff Hurley 1108 W. Evan Hewes Hwy, El Centro, CA 92243 Phone/fax 760.352.8496

CHurley-1

Cliff Hurley (CHurley)

CHurley-1

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CHurley (cont.)

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The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter.

CHurley (cont.)

CHurley-1 cont.

5. The perimeter waterway shall act as:
   a. A canal and reservoir for the other conveyance systems
   b. The desert pupfish connection
6. Marine elements can be added to and become one with the perimeter waterway system
7. Rubber tires are recognized as being inert and environmentally acceptable. And it is "the design in the use of tires to the end that the structure will be stable" that is at issue. Therefore, design models shall be developed. And based on those models and cost effectiveness consideration, rubber tires shall be used extensively as a major component in the construction of the dikes and outflow, check and spill structures.
8. The cover area shall be:
   a. Used for hiking, camping and other passive uses
   b. Converted to other uses, e.g.
      (1) Geothermal development
9. The primary goal of the cover area is to provide dust protection. And the allowed uses within the cover will be subject to maintaining dust protection.
10. The linchpin design matters include:
    a. Effective and economical conveyance systems to and between the:
       (1) Wetlands/cover element
       (2) Saline habitat and brine sink elements
    b. Well-within irrigation design for the wetlands, e.g.
       (1) Pan system on the contour
       (2) Furrows laser leveled to one tenth fall on the existing terrain (obliquely contoured)
11. There shall be enhanced habitat development within the inflow areas of the perimeter waterway
12. The perimeter waterway will obviously achieve salinity standards. And marine elements which may be added to and become part of the waterway system need to achieve the salinity standards.

Conclusion
A basic and expandable no project alternative begins with the establishment of a perimeter waterway.

The opportunity to use tires as a major structure component will not exist until effective models are developed and the cost effectiveness of using tires is determined.

Nothing in this basic and minimum plan should preclude the addition and assimilation of other elements (i.e. it should establish an effective foundation).

17

CLIFF HURLEY

Page 2 of 2

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY WATER LEFT TO DIVERT. **DH-1**

Sincerely,

Di Hard
Bismark Road
Cocoa, FL 32927

Di Hard (DH)

DH-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

WHAT WE ALL NEED TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT AS WE SLOWLY KILL OFF OUR WILDLIFE, WE ARE ALSO KILLING OUR OWN SPECIES. MAN WILL GO THE WAY OF THE OTHER CREATURES.

WE DO NOT NEED TO PAVE, DRILL, POLLUTE, DRAIN AND DESECRATE EVERY BIT OF OUR COUNTRY,
DO THE RIGHT THING!!!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Ellen Honey
1170 Bayview Vis
Annapolis, MD 21409-4909

EH-1

Ellen Honey (EH)

EH-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Gary C. Hoyt/Flying Cloud
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Nix the "NEW" River
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2007 3:07:08 PM
Attachments:

Greetings,

I drive over the New River (new?) once every week, smelling and observing 100's of gallons of raw sewage that come out of Mexicali Mexico.

WHY HAS THIS ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD BEEN ALLOWED FOR SO MANY **YEARS?**

Also, I have flown over the Salton Sea numerous times and have seen the visual effects of the sewage where it empties into the Salton Sea at the Southern end.

Mexico needs to be more responsible and should take care of its own sewage problems. The United States should not take that burden for them.

Sincerely,

Gary Hoyt/Boulevard, CA.

GH-1

Gary Hoyt (GH)

GH-1

The language in the Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." Improving the water quality of the New River is not one of the project's legislative goals. However, the CRBRWQCB and the SWRCB have been working collaboratively with the Republic of Mexico to improve the water quality of the New River.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please create a plan to support the Salton Sea so that it may continue to provide a stopover for migratory birds. California has already lost over 90 percent of its wetlands; the birds need a place to fuel up, rest, and stay or move on. I'm sure it can be done in such a way that is beneficial to both human beings and birds. **HH-1**

Sincerely,

Hazel Holby

Sincerely,

Hazel Holby
166 Westgate St
Redwood City, CA 94062-2814

Hazel Holby (HH)

HH-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

KHackland-1

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration.

I run an inn for birders here in South Texas. Bird watching tourism is a valuable economic resource to us, and it should be of increasing value to the Salton Sea area, especially if services for birders are improved. Nature tourism is an important industry that may alone justify the retention of the Salton Sea as an economic generator for the region.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,
Keith Hackland
801 Main Street
Alamo, TX 78516-2560

Keith Hackland (KHackland)

KHackland-1

All of the alternatives, including the Preferred Alternative, have the potential for increasing bird watching and other ecotourism activities at the Salton Sea. This potential increase in tourism could provide additional economic opportunities for communities surrounding the Salton Sea.

Jan 7, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

i love
animals!!
!!!!!!!

Sincerely,

katherine harrison
1160 Lamont Cir
Dacula, GA 30019-4527

KHarrison-1

Katherine Harrison (KHarrison)

KHarrison-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Dear letters editor,
Re: "On the Waterfront", editorial, Jan. 2, 2007
and
For public comment:

Since the Salton Sea is 200 feet below sea level, why not revert to the earliest, simplest and I'll put forth, the wisest choice of an original pipeline suggestion. Let's pipe in low-salinity sea water to support the migratory birds and that's it. Otherwise this is becoming Southern California's equivalent joke on the level of the infamous Oakland Bay Bridge rebuild. Taxpayer money isn't infinite and like businesses

Sincerely,
Leland P. Hammerschmitt
383 Longhorn Lane
Ojai, Ca. 93023
805-640-1184

LHammerschmitt-1

Leland Hammerschmitt (LHammerschmitt)

LHammerschmitt-1

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean, including the use of desalination, were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, these alternatives were considered but were not carried forward as alternatives in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico. The importation of water from the Pacific Ocean was not carried forward because the alternative has the potential to have substantial biological and water quality impacts in the Pacific Ocean and thus, did not appear to be feasible to obtain the necessary permits and approvals.

From: Leo_Handfelt@URSCorp.com [mailto:Leo_Handfelt@URSCorp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2006 8:56 AM
To: Nguyen, Thang D.
Cc: bill.brownlie@tetratech.com; Dick Wiltshire
Subject: Re: Time histories, Salton Sea

Vic,

We have performed some seismic response analyses of a proposed embankment cross section using the time histories that you had sent us. The two synthetic records (R1300/R1390 and R1500/R1590) were attributed to Paul Somerville (in URS' Pasadena office). I had Paul review these as the record for R1390 is very peculiar because its frequency content abruptly changes after about 50 seconds and becomes much richer in high frequencies and higher PGAs. This is opposite to what should be the case - the low frequency content should increase with time, not the high frequency. This peculiar feature may have resulted in the spectral matching that was done. Another possibility is that someone has strung two time histories together to increase the duration. Regardless, the records are not seismologically correct and we will not be using the R1300/R1390 records in our analyses.

I noticed that they are also presented in the Draft EIR that was published last week. We would request that these records not be attributed to Paul Somerville, or they be pulled from the Final EIR.

LHandfelt-1

Leo Handfelt (LHandfelt)

LHandfelt-1

The Resources Agency agrees that R1300/R1390 record has a non-realistic character which was recognized during the original record. The suite of records was intended to serve as preliminary information only. This record has been removed from further consideration. The Draft PEIR has been revised to reflect records attributed to Paul Somerville and other researchers as being developed by non-DWR personnel.

LHandfelt (cont.)

I will call you later to discuss.

Regards,

Leo D. Handfelt, P.E.
Principal Geotechnical Engineer
URS Corporation
1615 Murray Canyon Road, Suite 1000
San Diego, CA 92108
Direct: 619-683-6144
Main: 619-294-9400
Mobile: 619-384-7492
Fax: 619-293-7920
leo_handfelt@urscorp.com

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing concerningf Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration. I am very interested in wildlife conservation and concerned about protecting wildlife habitat at the Salton Sea, which is an Important Bird Area and a national treasure. .

The State of California could present a final, preferred alternative that protects this unique and important resource.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Margaret Hanrahan
3330 3rd Avenue Northwest
Naples, FL 34120-2718

MHanrahan-1

Margaret Hanrahan (MHanrahan)

MHanrahan-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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Jan 9, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

So much damage has already been done to our environment, fishes, animals, and birds! We keep picking and picking and picking, and pretty soon there will be nothing left to pick at.

As the USA becomes more and more developed, some would say over-developed, there are fewer places for birds to rest.

So we desperately need to protect the resting places that we still have!!! And the SALTON SEA is a perfect example. It is under threat as we speak, and so we need to make sure that it is FULLY protected for now and for the future!

The current PEIR Draft for the SALTON SEA is NOT acceptable. We need to rethink the current proposals and go MUCH farther in the protection of that body of water. PLEASE think of the future!

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Mark Hodie
1440 Melbrook Dr
Munster, IN 46321-3117

MHodie-1

Mark Hodie (MHodie)

MHodie-1

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From:	Mark Hunter
To:	SaltonSeaComments;
CC:	
Subject:	Comments on proposals
Date:	Tuesday, January 16, 2007 9:57:17 AM
Attachments:	

Although many of the eight proposals have at least some beneficial elements, no single proposal will protect the wildlife of the Salton Sea and also protect the people of the area from toxic dust plumes rising from exposed lakebed.

I support a new proposal mixing ideas from some existing proposals, as recommended by the Audubon Society:

1. A large recreational lake.
2. A series of concentric saline lakes to provide shoreline habitat for the millions of birds that presently use the Salton Sea. There is simply NO OTHER PLACE left in the state, now that we've degraded or destroyed so many of our other wetlands, for these birds to stop and feed on their migratory routes. Loss of such habitat would be a severe blow to these hundreds of species and millions of birds.
3. Release of enough water to stabilize exposed lakebeds and control toxic dust.

Such a proposal would be less complex, and cheaper, than other proposals to cut away mountains to construct massive dams in a high-risk earthquake zone, on a lakebed with a bottom that has the consistency of peanut butter.

Best regards,
Mark Hunter
2056 Rancho Canada Pl.
La Canada, CA 91011

MHunter-1

Mark Hunter (MHunter)

MHunter-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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MHunter (cont.)

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please protect the Salton Sea. Many birds, some threatened, use this area to rest during their migration. Even people have the availability of rest areas. Please extend the courtesy to others in our eco-system. **RHagewood-1**

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

R. HAGEWOOD
52 Mockingbird Hill Ln
Salem, AR 72576-9366

R Hagewood (RHagewood)

RHagewood-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please save the Salton Sea for our migrating birds. They need our help. **RHill-1**

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roslyn Hill
11439 Waterford St
Los Angeles, CA 90049-3438

Roslyn Hill (RHill)

RHill-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

SH-1

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

We live on this planet: let's stop killing it. Someone wants more money so another irreplaceble part of our only world needs to die. We need to rethink this. Short term personal gain or a home for our children? Can't have both.
Salle Hunter

Tucson AZ

Sincerely,

Salle Hunter
331 E Blacklidge Dr
Tucson, AZ 85705-4613

Salle Hunter (SH)

SH-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I support Defenders of Wildlife and am concerned about the well being of millions of migrating birds coming to the Salton Sea Desert every year. Among these feathered travelers are the brown pelican, Yuma clapper rail, and the western snowy plover.

As over 90 percent of California's wetlands are gone, 400 species of migrating birds depend on Salton Sea, one of the most vital resting spots for birds in North America.

The amounts of dust and salt blowing throughout bordering communities will greatly increase in the next 20 years the 360 square mile lake decreases by 30 percent.

Birds are an important part of North American wildlife and culture--think of our American emblem, the eagle. I encourage you to take these birds and this letter into consideration and help save this Southern California desert. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Gabi Inhofe
3730 S. Delaware Ave.
1780 E 14th Pl
Tulsa, OK 74104-4630

GI-2

Gary Inhofe (GI)

GI-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

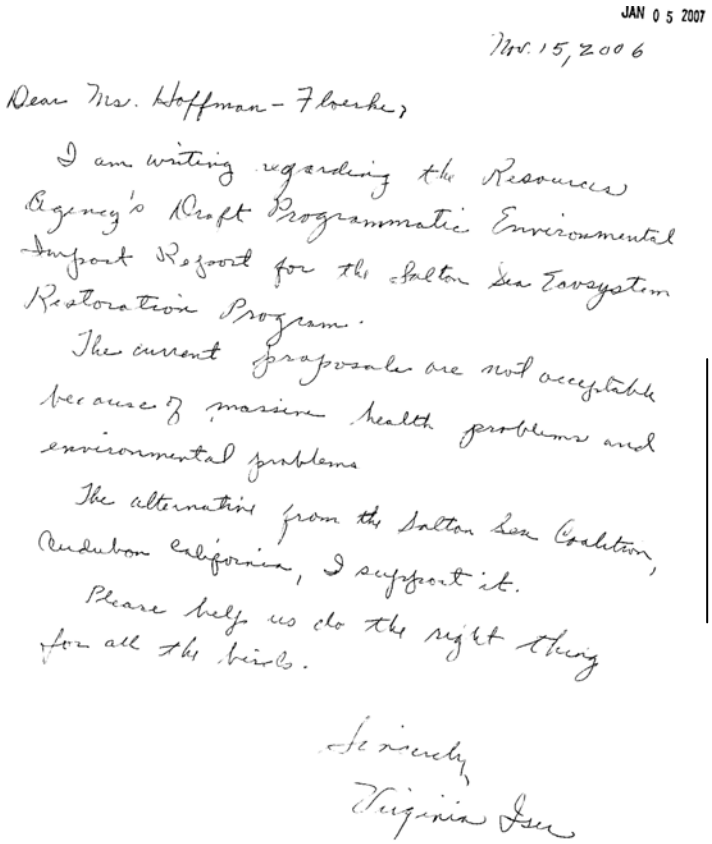
GI (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



JAN 0 5 2007

Nov. 15, 2006

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Flueckiger,

I am writing regarding the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

The current proposals are not acceptable because of massive health problems and environmental problems.

The alternative from the Salton Sea Coalition, Audubon California, I support it.

Please help us do the right thing for all the birds.

Sincerely,

Virginia Iser

VI-1

Virginia Iser (VI)

VI-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Christina Johnson
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Restoration proposals
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2007 11:20:28 AM
Attachments:

As a resident of California and a frequent visitor to the Salton Sea area, I understand the vital importance of protecting and restoring the natural resources and wildlife in the region. It has come to my attention that none of the current proposed restoration plans in the Salton Sea Ecosystem Program Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report adequately satisfies the legal requirement that the restoration plan maximize wildlife habitat or air and water quality protection in a reasonable timeframe. Therefore, I ask that the California Resources Agency combine the best parts of the proposals to structure a plan that will effectively restore habitat and protect local and regional air and water quality. **CJ-1** **CJ-2**

I appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,
Christina J. Johnson
2744 Hackett Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90815
562.496.3773
christina@teamjohnson.net

Christina Johnson (CJ)

CJ-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." All of the alternatives meet the legislative objectives to varying degrees.

CJ-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Dear Dale Hoffman-Floerke:

I am a very concerned citizen residing in the Coachella Valley and I am formally endorsing "Alternative 2 – Saline Habitat Complex II for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. Thank you. **JJ-1**

Jean Jones
505 S. Farrell #P100
Palm Springs, CA 92264
(760) 322-ARTS

Jean Jones (JJ)

JJ-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

you need to help the animals in nature. we all need each other to survive.

Sincerely,

Miranda Jane
5705 Cheyenne Cir
Virginia Bch, VA 23462-3901

MJane-1

Miranda Jane (MJane)

MJane-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Marilyn Jasper
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea Comments
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2007 11:57:29 AM
Attachments:

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Critical wildlife habitat MUST be protected and maintained in the planned solution to mitigate the impacts from the loss of water to the Salton Sea as mandated by the California legislature.
Please address a plan that maximizes the restoration opportunities and not one that merely satisfies the letter of the law.
Please combine the best, most stringent features from the proposed alternatives into an alternative that would restore habitat and provide protection for local and regional air and water quality.
Please error on the side of precaution, rather than minimally address the issues.
Thank you for addressing my comments.
Marilyn Jasper
3921 Dawn Dr.
Loomis, CA 95650

MJasper-1

Marilyn Jasper (MJasper)

MJasper-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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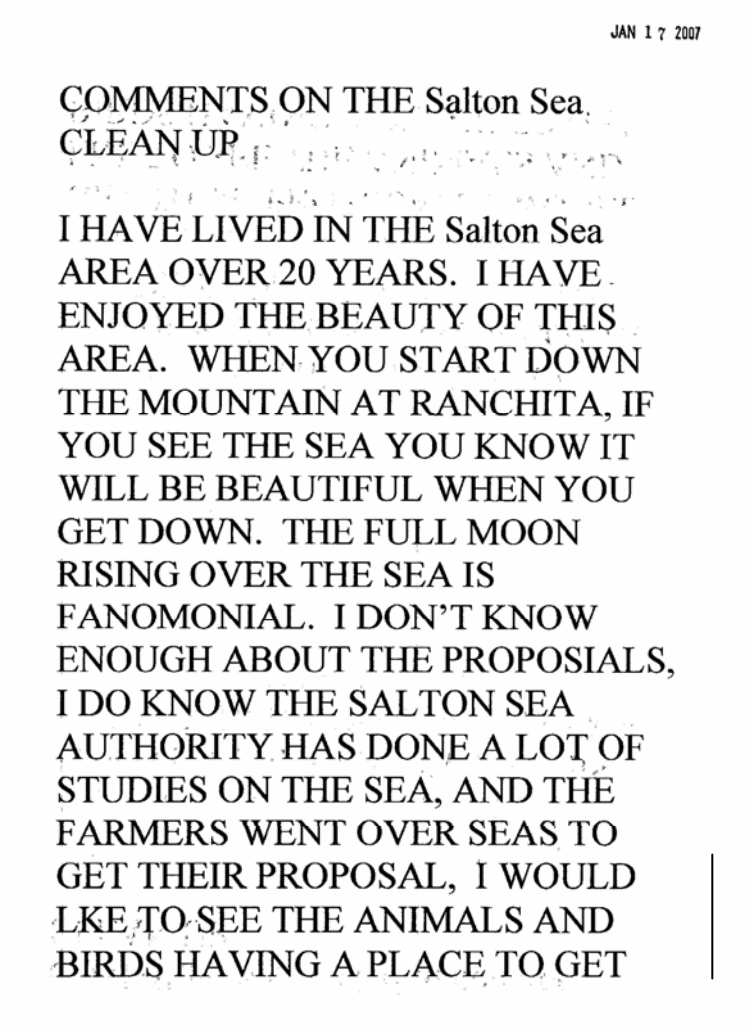
See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



JAN 17 2007

COMMENTS ON THE Salton Sea
CLEAN UP

I HAVE LIVED IN THE Salton Sea AREA OVER 20 YEARS. I HAVE ENJOYED THE BEAUTY OF THIS AREA. WHEN YOU START DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AT RANCHITA, IF YOU SEE THE SEA YOU KNOW IT WILL BE BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU GET DOWN. THE FULL MOON RISING OVER THE SEA IS FANOMONIAL. I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE PROPOSIALS, I DO KNOW THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY HAS DONE A LOT OF STUDIES ON THE SEA, AND THE FARMERS WENT OVER SEAS TO GET THEIR PROPOSAL, I WOULD LKE TO SEE THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS HAVING A PLACE TO GET

SJ-1

Shirley Jones (SJ)

SJ-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

SJ (cont.)

WATER, I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE BEAUTY THAT HAS BEEN THE SEA. I LIKE GOING OUT ON MY PORCH AND HAVE A PANAROMATIC VIEW OF THE SEA. I KNOW YOU WILL TRY TO ACCOMODIATE ALL CONCERNS OF THE SEA.

SJ-1 cont.

THANK YOU

SHIRLEY A JONES
1536 DESERT AIR AVE
VISTA DEL MAR ESTATES
THERMAL, CA 92274

From: Thomas J. Joyce
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC: ksatterfield@audubonsltonsea.org,sharonarnold@cableone.net;
Subject: PEIR Comments
Date: Tuesday, December 05, 2006 5:25:25 PM
Attachments:

Dear Madam,
I am a resident of North Carolina who had the pleasure of spending some time birding the Salton Sea area this past Sept. I, and my five companions spent the better part of two days viewing some of the 400 species known to inhabit the Sea. While there we spent two nights at the Calipatria Inn and visited local eateries.

A friend of mine informed me about the proceedings you are conducting to determine the future of the Sea. Without particular knowledge of the various alternatives proposed, I can only hope that the ones chosen will ensure that the bird life of the Sea will be given the maximum of protection, so that birders, such as myself, will be able to enjoy visits here in future years. **TJ-1**

Thank you for your consideration.

Thomas Joyce
PO Box 2542
Brvard, NC 28712

Thomas Joyce (TJ)

TJ-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Protection of wildlife and avian species is a major component of the project; however, such protection must be conducted in light of the two other project purposes (to the extent feasible, elimination of air quality impacts and protection of water quality).

Jan 7, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

To Whom It May Concern:

I urge you to use your influence and diligence to protect the conditions surrounding the Salton Sea. This ecosystem is a major miration for some already endangered birds.

I know the protection needs time and stages for any kind of implementation, but any small step is never too late!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Kristen Keenan
72 Lafayette Ave
Dumont, NJ 07628-2738

KK-1

Kristen Keenan (KK)

KK-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I urge you to save migratory birds and the Salton Sea for future generations, they are both a national treasure.

The state must take action to prevent the Salton Sea's disappearance. It shrinking will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

I urge you again to take action, to come up with a successful plan for our bird popution and important water resource. Their fate is in your hands, please take care of this wonderful gift that was given to us.

Sincerely,

MaryLee King
2017 Baffin Bay Dr
Plano, TX 75075-2177

MKing-1

MaryLee King (MKing)

MKing-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Martin Knight
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Preservation
Date: Tuesday, January 02, 2007 1:59:06 PM
Attachments:

Please consider some of the alternatives that have been proposed. Despite the fact that the Sea's creation was an accident, it provides critical habitat for migratory birds. The loss of Thule Lake in the forties has created a vital need for replacement of habitat servicing the fly ways in our great state. Personally I would support a bond issue. Perhaps the private sector in exchange for limited development could help foot the bill. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.
Martin Knight
martnite@pacbell.net

MKnight-1

Martin Knight (MKnight)

MKnight-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Npkarem@juno.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 4:13:34 PM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration. I am very interested in wildlife conservation but put people before birds and animals!

The Draft EIR contains a wide range of restoration alternatives, but none will please those that think birds and animals are more important than people!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Nick Karem
3011 Weather Way
Louisville, KY 40220-2846

NK-1

Nick Karem (NK)

NK-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." While human concerns, such as human health and economic and recreational opportunities, are important factors that have been considered in the development an analysis of the alternatives, the alternatives are intended to meet the legislative mandates outline in the Salton Sea Restoration Act.

From: BOBXBEV@aol.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: salton sea restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 02, 2007 5:34:23 PM
Attachments:

i support the least costly proposal to keep dust down, care for pup fish and provide bird habitat. more costly options that promote development or tourism should be at the expense of developers or chamber of commerce's.
due to the hostile heat of summer the salton sea has never generated population growth for substantive utilization of the area and our government would be wasting money to proceed in that direction to favor special interest groups and speculators.

robert kreider
1294 allin lane
banning ca 92220
951 845 1415
bobxbev@aol.com

RKreider-1

Robert Kreider (RKreider)

RKreider-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

NOV 27 2006

November 19, 2006

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
California Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
1416 Ninth Street, Rm. 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing regarding the Water Resources' Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

I agree that the state of California must take action to prevent health problems from dust and to save the Salton Sea. However, the current proposals are not acceptable because each would, in turn, cause massive health problems and/or environmental degradation.

As an alternative, I am asking that the state implement the "evolved alternative" that combines the best of the proposals. This alternative has been outlined in letters from the Salton Sea Coalition, Audubon California, and other environmental groups, and I support it as well.

As someone who loves birds and regularly visits the Salton Sea to go birding, I urge you to do the same.

Thank you for you time.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kuzins

Rebecca Kuzins
729 Locust Street, #8
Pasadena, CA 91101

RKuzins-1

Rebecca Kuzins (RKuzins)

RKuzins-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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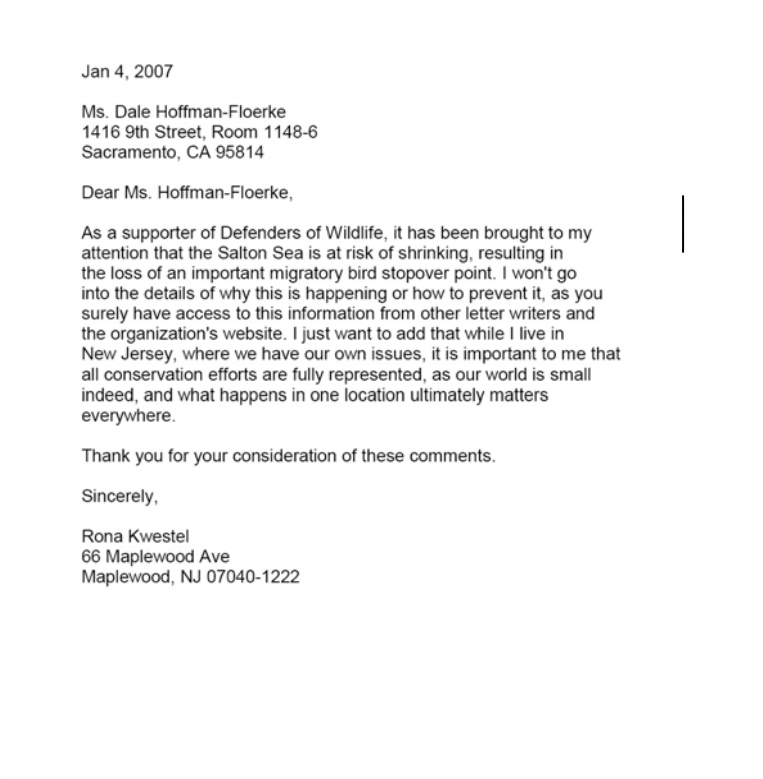
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife, it has been brought to my attention that the Salton Sea is at risk of shrinking, resulting in the loss of an important migratory bird stopover point. I won't go into the details of why this is happening or how to prevent it, as you surely have access to this information from other letter writers and the organization's website. I just want to add that while I live in New Jersey, where we have our own issues, it is important to me that all conservation efforts are fully represented, as our world is small indeed, and what happens in one location ultimately matters everywhere.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Rona Kwestel
66 Maplewood Ave
Maplewood, NJ 07040-1222

RKwestel-1

Rona Kwestel (RKwestel)

RKwestel-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Tony Krzysik (TKrzysik)

From: Tony Krzysik
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Date: Friday, November 17, 2006 3:58:31 PM
Attachments:

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Salton Sea PEIR comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

17 November 2006

SUBJECT: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

This e-mail provides my input on the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The state of California must take all appropriate action to save the biological and physical integrity of the Salton Sea ecosystem. The 'no action' scenarios described in the PEIR and in the Pacific Institute's Hazard (see http://www.pacinst.org/reports/saltonsea/index.htm) clearly demonstrate that human health is at serious risk in Imperial and Coachella Valleys, because of predicted hundreds of additional tons of annual fugitive dust that would blow off the land exposed by the shrinking Salton Sea. The winds in this region are unusually intense and persistent. The actual measured wind transport of dust and sand just north of Palm Springs has been recorded as the highest on the planet!!!

A reduced and more saline Salton Sea would severely impact the more than 400 species of birds that migrate through, over-winter, breed, or are permanent

residents of this unique globally significant ecosystem. Periodically, bird populations number in the millions of individual birds. This is therefore, a truly significant feeding and resting place for our North American avian fauna. With the cumulative loss of over 95 percent of California's wetlands and riparian communities, the Salton Sea has over ecological time become a mandatory and integral landscape element for our North American birds of the Pacific Flyway. Serious degradation or loss of the Salton Sea literally rings the death toll for a significant number of our native birds. Clearly, we all must act and take the responsibility to do all that we can to protect the Salton Sea. For more detailed information on the natural history and birds of this truly remarkable natural treasure see "Birds of the Salton Sea: Status, Biogeography, and Ecology", by M. A. Patten, G. McCaskie, and P. Unitt, 2003, University of California Press.

Trzysik-1

The protection of the Salton Sea has not been adequately addressed by the PEIR. None of the alternatives presented in the PEIR satisfy the legal requirements to maximize and optimize wildlife habitat, and protect air and water quality in a reasonable timeframe. Currently, state and federal law require restoration of the Salton Sea, because of its importance for fish and wildlife, air quality, recreation, and even local economic development (see California Fish and Game Code Sections 2930, et seq.).

Trzysik-2

Most of the proposed alternatives are BOTH ecologically and economically unacceptable, because the extensive construction and permitting requirements drag-down implementation, degrade air and water quality, and impose unacceptable environmental damage over a broad landscape. California has a commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, it makes no sense to initiate a project that requires massive energy to pump and treat water. Neither does it make sense to construct dams and dikes that require tens of millions of cubic yards of rock and thousands of daily truck-trips.

The PEIR, nevertheless, contains the information and integral components necessary to develop a successful plan from a synthesis of proposed alternatives. Alternatives 1 and 2 provide important habitat to support many of the birds currently using the Salton Sea. Alternative 4 offers a relatively low-cost and low-impact method to distribute water around the present shoreline, and additionally would provide habitat, shoreline protection, and recreation opportunities. The concentric lakes plan benefits air quality, and also provides water for addressing future fugitive dust problems. Components of Alternatives 5-7 provide recreation and economic development opportunities, and the local support necessary for funding and implementation.

TKrzysik (cont.)

TKrzysik-1

The language in the Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." All of the alternatives meet the legislative objectives to varying degrees. The Salton Sea Restoration Act does not specify a timeframe for meeting these objectives.

TKrzysik-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

I urge that DWR combine the following six optimizing features from the currently proposed alternatives into a final evolved PREFERRED alternative. This meets the legal requirements for restoration, and provides opportunities for recreation and development in Imperial and Coachella Valleys.

1) Provide between 25,000 - 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Salton Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species.

2) Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation.

3) Develop a significant North Lake, approximately 10,000 acre, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Salton Sea. This is similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5-7, and would provide the largest recreational lake in Southern California.

4) Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa. This is described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8.

5) Immediately construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") to provide resource requirements for birds during the long permitting and construction process. This was addressed in all of the proposed alternatives.

6) Develop and implement a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions. This was described in Alternatives 1-3.

A "Final Preferred Alternative" that contains all of these six components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality, and water quality; while concurrently providing substantial recreation and economic opportunities. I strongly urge the State to select this Preferred Alternative with the components and features outlined above. Such an evolved alternative would best meet the needs of local communities and economics, fish and wildlife (especially all the migratory birds of the Pacific Flyway), the people of California, and the worldwide community of birdwatchers that visits this globally significant ecosystem.

TKrzysik (cont.)

Trzysik-2 cont.

300

TKrzysik (cont.)

Thank you for your attention and careful consideration of these constructive comments.

Sincerely,
Tony Krzysik

Anthony J. Krzysik, Ph.D.
Research and Consultant Ecologist
Prescott Audubon Society, Conservation Chair & Board of Directors

11 Highland Terrace
Prescott, AZ 86305
928-777-2106
krzysika@cableone.net

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am one of many supporters of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea, and I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

Simply stated: When any one of the delicate eco-systems are compromised by humans, all the other eco-systems will have repercussions. Therefore, do research, and listen to the recommendation on how to preseve these precious creatures' habitats. The human eco-system will stand to gain from such consideration. **TKuaimoku-1**

Sincerely,

Theresa Kuaimoku
465 Kapahulu Ave Apt 3B
Honolulu, HI 96815-3862

Theresa Kuaimoku (TKuaimoku)

TKuaimoku-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
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Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

There are many more people out here than you might think who are concerned about the environment, the migratory birds, and their places of habitat.

Please protect the Salton Sea! Please. We'll never be able to get it back once its gone.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Betsy Lyde
520 N McKown Ave
Sherman, TX 75092-5576

BL-1

Betsy Lyde (BL)

BL-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Enrique Lozano (EL)

January 15, 2007

To:
The Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program committee.

Issue:
Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

From:
Enrique Lozano
(Concerned citizen living on the on the Imperial Valley.)

I attended the Salton Sea Public Hearing at El Centro, California on January 11, 2007. As a citizen of the Imperial Valley I am concerned about the AIR QUALITY on the Imperial Valley and most of all about the ALTERNATIVES that you are proposing neither one of them address the NEW RIVER as part of the project.

A background on the NEW RIVER:

The New River was artificially created in 1905 (along with the Salton Sea) when the US Army Corps of Engineers inadvertently flooded The Imperial Valley basin in its attempts to divert the Colorado River. It follows a new, northward flow (instead of its original Gulf of California bound southern trajectory). It originates approximately 20 miles south of the border and flows past Calexico, California and around the Imperial Valley (Seeley, El Centro, Brawley, Imperial and Westmorland) for approximately 65 miles before emptying into the Salton Sea.

It is mainly sourced by Colorado River water run off from the Mexicali Valley additionally injected with approximately 14 to 16 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated, partially treated and raw sewage from the city of Mexicali, Mexico. In recent years, thanks in large part to Mexicali's population growth, inferior industrial waste control, toxic agricultural runoff (DDT, a pesticide which almost led the Bald eagle to extinction, banned in the US since the 1970s, is still used in Mexico), and inadequate sewer system, the New River has gained the unenviable title of most polluted river in North America.

As it winds across the US / Mexico border near Calexico, its most obvious features are its stench and foam. It smells like a sewer (the stanched easily penetrates even completely sealed vehicles) and it produces toxic foam, which the desert wind frequently blows into shopping center parking lots near its entry point at the border. The water alternates between an unnatural shade of green and Coca Cola black, occasionally surfacing noxious gases and vapors (evident in its occasional bubble patches) and is somewhat viscous its consistency.

Page 2

The river is a true witches stew of pathogens (capable of producing Polio, Typhoid, Cholera, Tuberculosis), carcinogens, heavy metals (lead, arsenic, cadmium, Thallium, antimony, boron, manganese) pesticides (aldrin, chlordane, DDD, DDE, DDT, heptachlor Oxide), PCBs, and over 65 volatile organic substances (VOCs). Many of these substances are present in concentrations that violate US EPA and Cal/EPA standards by several hundred-fold.

Numerous studies have been conducted on the exact composition. Fecal coli form (which leads to E-coil) and streptococci are the most evident, especially as it crosses the border. Mosquito colonies that can spring up along the more stagnant portions of the river are known carriers of an Arbovirus cause Encephalitis.

While overall assessment of this river can be summed up as true Ecological disaster zone. A new partially US-funded wastewater plant in an area known as "Las Arenitas"(33 km south of the border) is tentatively schedule to become operational in September 2006; however this plant as of January 15, 2007 is not functional to its full capacity. Despite the new treatment plant, the New River will remain hazardous long after the sewage stops.

It is absolutely imperative that the New River is included into the ALTERNATIVES for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. It is pathetic that Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact team will depend a 100 percent on Mexico to take care of the problem of the New River. To me and a lot of the community members that I showed and share the Alternatives proposed by your committee; we conclude and agree that your proposed alternatives is going to be a waste of money, time and effort if the main problem; which is the New River and the Alamo River is not solve first by the United States.

EL-1

Sincerely,

Enrique Lozano.

EL (cont.)

EL-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."

Water quality in the New River and in agricultural runoff is outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

-- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is absolutely critical for the survival of migratory birds and the animals they benefit by filling their niche in the ecosystem. These birds already suffer for massive loss of habitat due to development. The proposed plan by the Defenders of Wildlife would save these birds and benefit humans as well. I strongly urge you to implement this plan. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lezenby
4809 Beaumont Ave Apt 1R
Philadelphia, PA 19143-3456

KL-1

Kathryn Lezenby (KL)

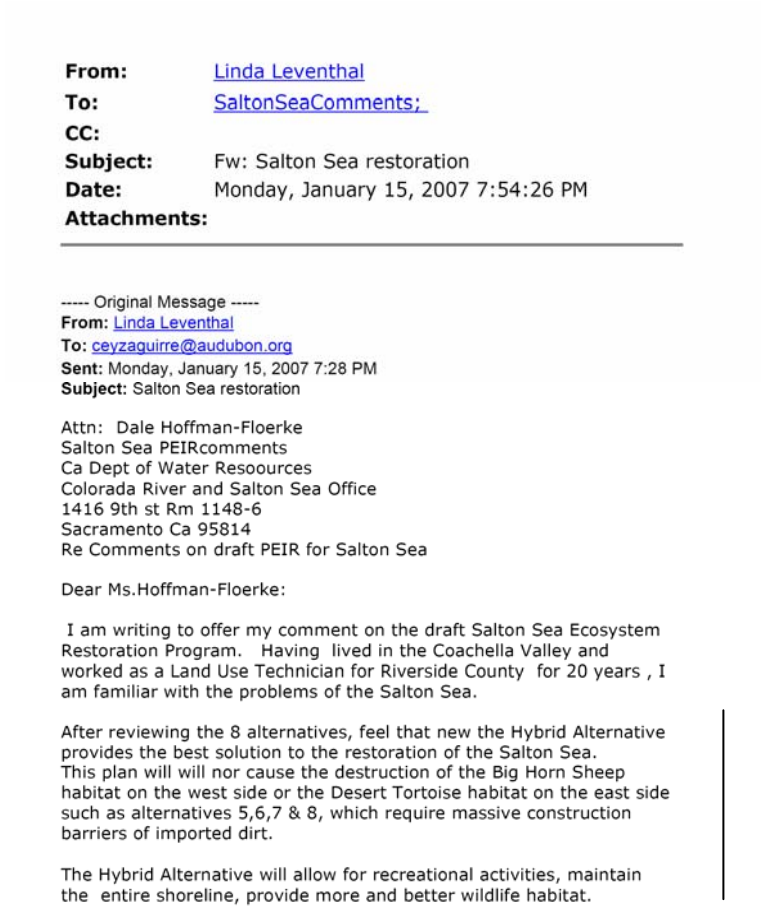
KL-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



From: Linda Leventhal
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Fw: Salton Sea restoration
Date: Monday, January 15, 2007 7:54:26 PM
Attachments:

----- Original Message -----
From: Linda Leventhal
To: ceyzaguirre@audubon.org
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2007 7:28 PM
Subject: Salton Sea restoration

Attn: Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIRcomments
Ca Dept of Water Resoources
Colorada River and Salton Sea Office
1416 9th st Rm 1148-6
Sacramento Ca 95814
Re Comments on draft PEIR for Salton Sea

Dear Ms.Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing to offer my comment on the draft Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. Having lived in the Coachella Valley and worked as a Land Use Technician for Riverside County for 20 years , I am familiar with the problems of the Salton Sea.

After reviewing the 8 alternatives, feel that new the Hybrid Alternative provides the best solution to the restoration of the Salton Sea. This plan will will nor cause the destruction of the Big Horn Sheep habitat on the west side or the Desert Tortoise habitat on the east side such as alternatives 5,6,7 & 8, which require massive construction barriers of imported dirt.

The Hybrid Alternative will allow for recreational activities, maintain the entire shoreline, provide more and better wildlife habitat.

LLeventhal-1

Linda Leventhal (LLevnthal)

LLeventhal-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

While the Barrier that forms the Marine Sea would be constructed using rock, impacts to big horn sheep and desert tortoise would be evaluated in detail in future project-level analysis.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

LLeventhal (cont.)

Thank you for your consideration.

Linda Leventhal
73100 Lyons Blvd
Desert Hot Springs Ca 92241

E-mail: mlleventh@msn.com

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

please for the love of all things that are natural will you please save the birds. Its bad enough that we are killing this planet cant we leave the animals alone??? thank you

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

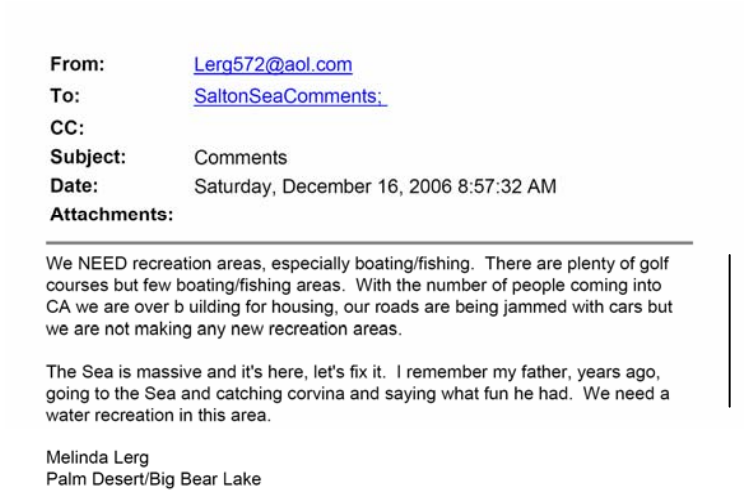
Lore Lozier
23 Church St
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472-1205

LLozier-1

Lore Lozier (LLozier)

LLozier-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



From: Lerg572@aol.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments
Date: Saturday, December 16, 2006 8:57:32 AM
Attachments:

We NEED recreation areas, especially boating/fishing. There are plenty of golf courses but few boating/fishing areas. With the number of people coming into CA we are over b uilding for housing, our roads are being jammed with cars but we are not making any new recreation areas.

The Sea is massive and it's here, let's fix it. I remember my father, years ago, going to the Sea and catching corvina and saying what fun he had. We need a water recreation in this area.

Melinda Lerg
Palm Desert/Big Bear Lake

MLerg-1

Melinda Lerg (MLerg)

MLerg-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

JAN 0 5 2007

MLower-1

Nov 15, 2006.

Dear Ms Hoffman Flowke,

Regarding PEIR;

I agree there are problems that need to be solved- but current government proposals are unacceptable-

I ask that the State approve the "solved alternatives" recommended by the Salton Sea Coalition and Audubon Calif.

I am a frequent visitor to the area and a concerned California Native.

Mary Anne Lower
South Pasadena Calif.

Mary Ann Lower (MLower)

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Monique Lopez
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 9:58:34 AM
Attachments: Draft_PEIR_SS_Comments.doc

Monique G. Lopez
290 Cattle Call Dr. #11
Brawley, CA 92227
monique.g.lopez@sbcglobal.net

January 12, 2006

Dale K. Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
California Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via email: SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Re: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea Restoration

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am a lifelong resident of the Imperial Valley and an active community member in air and water quality issues. As a teenager, I grew up a bike ride away from the Sonny Bono Wildlife Refuge and would often ride out there to go bird watching and enjoy the ambiance. There I grew to appreciate and realize how important the sea is to our community. Therefore, as the time draws near for the selection of a restoration plan for the Salton Sea, I would like to voice the following concerns:

- air quality mitigation
- preservation of wildlife habitat

MLopez-1

Monique Lopez (MLopez)

MLopez-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

MLopez (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

- protection of cultural and historical sites
- and recreation

First, any plan which ignores air quality mitigation based on the unsound assumption that when the sea begins to decline the exposed soils will develop into a thick salt crust and therefore encase any soils that can be blown into the air must not be implemented. Scientific evidence has conveyed that the salt crust theory only works in the summer season when the weather is dry. However, when the weather is cooler and moister, winter season, the thick salt crust is not present. Therefore, the exposed soils for the declining seabed will be blown into the air. It is estimated that approximately 50,000 acres of seabed will be exposed. Meteorological trends also suggest that during the winter months that wind patterns blow from Riverside County into the Imperial Valley (wind is traveling from north to south). Therefore, during the winter when the salt crust theory is not in effect, the wind will blow the exposed seabed directly into the Imperial Valley. The cities that will be directly affected are Bombay Beach, Niland, Calipatria, Westmorland, and Brawley.

The farming community is also concerned about this because they want to protect their winter crops from the soils and salt spray that can blow onto the delicate leaves of their crop. Moreover, the Imperial Valley community suffers from poor air quality. According to EPA standards, it is in serious non-attainment for PM10 (small particles that get logged in the lungs and trigger asthma and other respiratory ailments). Imperial County has the highest hospitalization rate for children who suffer from asthma. Any additional stress upon our air basin would be an environmental health disaster.

Second, the preservation of the wildlife habitat is essential since the Salton Sea remains one of the last refuges in California. 90% or more of all California wetlands have been depleted. It plays a vital role in the pacific flyway and approximately 400 species of birds visit the sea each year. Therefore, any chosen alternative must protect the wildlife and fish habitat. Moreover, any plan that includes the overdevelopment of the surrounding locations near the sea to fund the project must not be implemented for the reasons mentioned.

Third, the preservation of the habitat on the southern part of the sea is a must. Historically, the southern portion of the sea has been beneficial to the community because of its recreational uses such as, bird watching, fishing, and hunting. A portion of the surrounding communities' economy is dependent upon recreational users of the sea to make purchases at their local restaurants, hotels, and stores. Any plan that does not preserve the water, habitat, and beneficial recreational uses on the southern part of the sea can cause a detrimental economic effect in areas that are already economically depressed.

MLopez-1 cont.

MLopez-2

MLopez-3

MLopez-4

MLopez-5

MLopez (cont.)

MLopez-2

The creation of a salt crust, as described in Alternative 7, remains a viable mitigation approach for some areas of the Exposed Playa, as long as it can be proven effective at the Salton Sea. Additional studies on salt chemistry, mineralization, and overall control efficiencies for salt crusts could be conducted during project-level analysis, in order to propose this method for dust mitigation. Any proposed mitigation measures must be as least as efficient as measures currently recognized by the air regulatory agencies as Best Available Control Measures.

MLopez-3

Potential for emissions from untreated, Exposed Playa is recognized extensively in Appendix E of the Draft PEIR, and Appendix H-3 addresses control of these potential emissions in great detail. Although public health standards for human exposure to PM10 exist, no similar thresholds exist for crops. In Appendix E, Attachment E10, the limited existing literature regarding dust impacts on crops was reviewed. National ambient air quality standards are developed on the basis of impacts to health and welfare, and these standards were used to develop the air quality management approach for the Draft PEIR. Compliance with these standards should provide significant protection to crops, as well as human health. It would be appropriate for future project-level analysis to address specific impacts and required mitigation measures.

MLopez-4

See response to comment MLopez-1 above. The Preferred Alternative does not include land development around the Salton Sea to fund restoration actions.

MLopez-5

See response to comment MLopez-1 above. The Preferred Alternative includes the creation of habitat, including Saline Habitat Complex and a portion of the Marine Sea, in the southern portion of the present Salton Sea. As described in response to comment MLopez-1, although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities. These recreational opportunities could provide additional economic opportunities for communities surrounding the Salton Sea.

Last but not least, cultural and historical sites around the sea must be protected. The Salton Sea has a rich Native American history and artifacts have been found around the sea. Any plan that is not sensitive to the cultural history of sea or which calls for overdevelopment in these areas to fund restoration must not be implemented.

For the reasons mentioned above, I would like to put into record that a combination of the Saline Habitat Complex 1 (Alternative 1) and the Concentric Lakes (Alternative 4) restoration plans is recommended for implementation.

The Saline Habitat Complex 1 addresses air quality and water quality more adequately than the other alternatives. It is also easier to implement and more flexible, which reduces the risk for failure or a manmade disaster. However, this alternative does not provide a diverse habitat to maintain diversity of fish and birds and offers little recreational activities. Therefore, due to its merits and deficiencies, the Concentric Lakes alternative should be considered in combination with alternative one. The Concentric Lakes alternative would provide a diverse habitat for the birds and fish and there would be less of an impact to air quality from construction. However, the deficiency of this alternative is that it did not do an adequate job of incorporating mitigation for air quality impacts in regards to the exposed playa.

Therefore, the Saline Habitat Complex 1 addresses the deficiencies of the Concentric Lakes alternative and vise-versa. Moreover, a combination of these alternatives address the concerns outlined in this letter such as: air quality, wildlife and fish habitat, recreation, local economic impact, and protection of cultural and historical sites.

Sincerely,

Monique G. Lopez

MLopez-6

MLopez-7

MLopez-1 (cont.)

MLopez-6

The cultural and Native American history in the Salton Sea area was described in Chapter 15 of the Draft PEIR. The Resources Agency recognizes the importance of these resources and the Draft PEIR includes a variety of Next Steps, or mitigation measures, that seek to reduce or eliminate impacts to these resources. The Preferred Alternative does not include land development around the Salton Sea to fund restoration actions.

MLopez-7

See response to comment MLopez-1 above.

DEC 1 8 2006

Patricia A. Larson
Attorney at Law
P. O. Box 13921
Palm Desert, CA 92255

Phone: (760) 360-9869
FAX: (760) 772-0107
Email: ucla1949@aol.com
SBN: 149047

November 30, 2006

While I am a member of the Coachella Valley Water District Board of Directors and as such a member of the Salton Sea Authority Board, my comments are entirely my own, and have not been presented to nor approved by either board.

Comments on the State of California PEIR
for
Salton Sea Restoration

Lynchpin For All Restoration - Hydrology

Hydrology, inflows less outflow, is the base for all Salton Sea alternatives analysis. It is the water-available which is the determining factor for lake size in every alternative. It must be accurate; it must be based on solid science and statistical analysis. Science and statistical analysis lose all honesty when political ends set the direction. There is prima facie evidence that political mandate determined an essential portion of the Hydrology analysis. That is, in and of itself, an unacceptable and fatal flaw in the hydrology analysis which is then taken as the base assumption thereby poisoning the PEIR.

The Hydrology of the PEIR has serious flaws. It is so flawed as to give rise to suspicion that the State intends to use manipulated data to meet environmental concerns which in turn will lead to transferring excess water to politically powerful areas of high growth on the coast.

State staff responsible for the PEIR vigorously deny the accusation suspicioned in the paragraph immediately above. I would like to believe them.

Regardless of reasons, I offer the following to show that the PEIR is defective on the basis of the hydrology alone As such the entire PEIR is infected.

Before leaving that subject, I would like to point out that after reading the Draft Hydrology Report, I lifted up my concerns regarding the Hydrology Report to the State several times. The State had ample time to correct data and analysis errors. It chose not to.

PL-1

Patricia Larson (PL)

PL-1

The hydrology and associated inflows analysis for the Draft PEIR was developed in coordination with the Inflows Working Group. The group was a sub-group of the Salton Sea Advisory Committee. It was open to the public and meetings were attended by a variety of local, regional, and statewide agencies, environmental organizations, and interested members of the public.

As described in Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR, the 717,000 acre-feet inflow was used in the analysis of all alternatives to allow for comparison of the alternatives. This inflow amount was selected in corporation with the Inflows Working Group and was based on the best available data and technical information. This inflow amount was intended to minimize the risk of failure of an alternative to meet its habitat, air quality, and water quality goals that could result with an inadequate water supply. It would be appropriate for reevaluation of future inflows to the Salton Sea to include the most current flow data during project-level analysis. The Draft PEIR inflow analysis does not include new water transfers.

While Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7 allows for the transfer of up to 1,600,000 acre-feet of water from IID to DWR and allows Metropolitan to purchase that water from DWR, as identified in the Draft PEIR, DWR has no plans to pursue the transfer and sale of the (c)(1) or (c)(2) water for economic reasons. The Resources Agency recognizes that the costs of the mitigation associated with the transfer of the (c)(1) and (c)(2) water could be substantial. As stated on page 3-81 of the Draft PEIR, ". . . the monetary benefit from the sale of (c)(2) or (c)(1) water does not appear to be significantly greater than the costs associated with the mitigations."

Representatives of the State met with you to discuss the inflow analysis and your concerns regarding this analysis. While you disagree with the inflow analysis, as stated above, the analysis was prepared in an open, public process and in coordination with members of the Inflows Working Group. All data used in the inflows analysis was discussed with the Inflows Working Group and the State has not used manipulated data in the analysis.

DEC 1 8 2008

Page 2- Larson comments

Fatal Flaws

1. **In and of Itself:** The Hydrology Section considers only the 75 year time period for the QSA in its analysis of projected flows. (The 15 year hiatus from QSA impacts is considered, but that is a legal given.) The impact of the QSA not being renewed after the initial 45 year period is not analyzed, yet it is a very real possibility "in the foreseeable future". State staff have said it was not considered because the State appointed Advisory Committee said that non renewal was not to be considered. Can political mandate evaporate an event that "reasonable could occur" from CEQA analysis?

- Absolutely, the 75 year period must be analyzed, but equally absolute is the need for the 45 year analysis. No one can say what the political climate will be 45 years from now. If the vote were to be taken today, it is my belief it would not be renewed.

  To analyze one possibility and not the other equally valid possibility precludes objective option analysis.

- The State staff claim to be taking a low risk, conservative approach to inflow projections. Staff uses "conservative' to mean more certain, not leading to excess cost.. Yet to not consider a 45 year QSA is not "conservative and low risk"; it is reckless. By definition, an EIR must consider all relevant factors. Here they chose to ignore a major factor which on its face is highly significant and they do so on the basis of "we were directed not to consider it."

  It takes 24 years for the water transfers to take full effect as they ramped up over that time. Of those 24 years, in the first fifteen the Sea is protected from inflow loss due to the water transfers. If the QSA is not renewed, it means the project life will be based on a 21 year use. (45-24). That is essential to cost/benefit analysis.

  It is hardly "conservative" to not analyze the impact of non renewal after 45 years; it is clearly a biased approach in the very document whose purpose it is to objectively show significant risks.

  Will we be willing to spend billions of dollars for a 21 year project?

  Is there a way out if non renewal occurs without severe environmental damage? An EIR purpose to analyze these foreseeable events that could seriously affect any alternative?

PL-2

PL-3

PL-4

PL (cont.)

PL-2

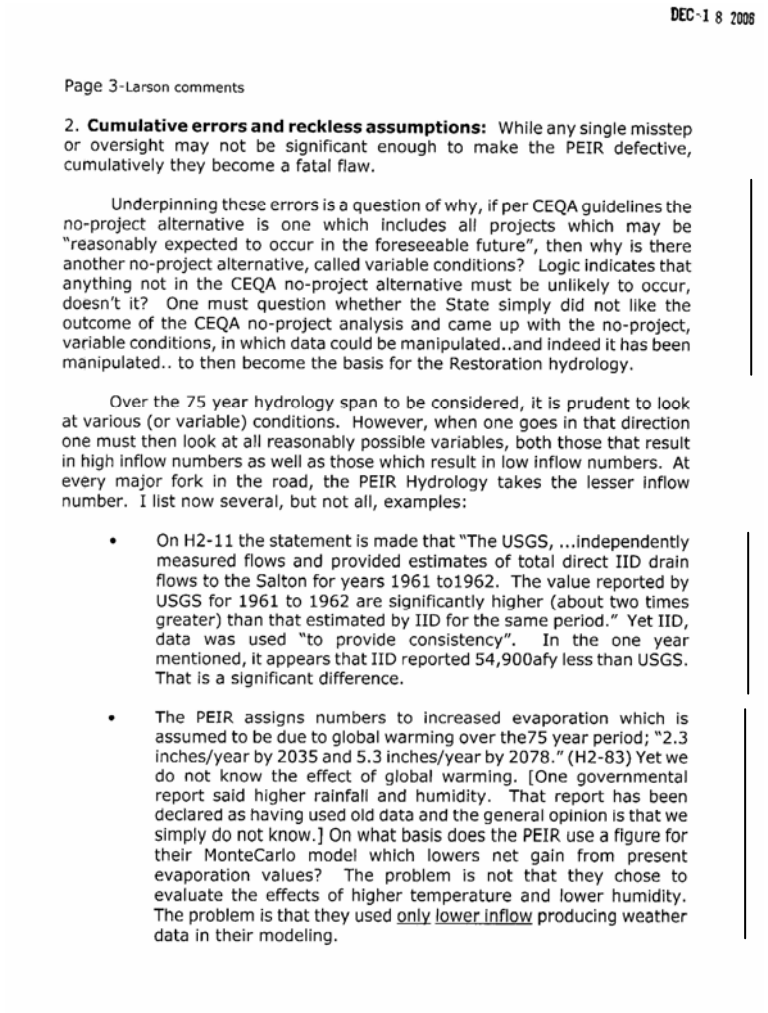
The 32 member Advisory Committee included representatives from a variety of federal, State, and local public agencies, Tribal governments, and non-governmental organizations. They were selected by the Legislature to provide balanced representation of a variety of interests in the Salton Sea in accordance with the Salton Sea Restoration Act and related legislation. The 75-year study period was selected based on the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

PL-3

See response to comment PL-2 above.

PL-4

The approach taken in the hydrologic analysis of the alternatives was to consider a range of possible future hydrologic scenarios over the planning horizon. The 75-year planning horizon was agreed upon by the Advisory Committee and is consistent with the planning horizon for the QSA. While the non-renewal of the transfer after 45 years could have been analyzed, from the perspective of the development of a restoration alternative, this scenario is speculative. Alternatives were developed under a reasonable, but conservative hydrologic condition such that the alternative would function across a broad range of possible conditions. Under future hydrologic conditions that have greater inflows than that used for design, such as the one described by the commenter, the alternatives would continue to function as designed but may have a larger Brine Sink.



DEC-1 8 2006

Page 3-Larson comments

2. **Cumulative errors and reckless assumptions:** While any single misstep or oversight may not be significant enough to make the PEIR defective, cumulatively they become a fatal flaw.

Underpinning these errors is a question of why, if per CEQA guidelines the no-project alternative is one which includes all projects which may be "reasonably expected to occur in the foreseeable future", then why is there another no-project alternative, called variable conditions? Logic indicates that anything not in the CEQA no-project alternative must be unlikely to occur, doesn't it? One must question whether the State simply did not like the outcome of the CEQA no-project analysis and came up with the no-project, variable conditions, in which data could be manipulated..and indeed it has been manipulated.. to then become the basis for the Restoration hydrology.

Over the 75 year hydrology span to be considered, it is prudent to look at various (or variable) conditions. However, when one goes in that direction one must then look at all reasonably possible variables, both those that result in high inflow numbers as well as those which result in low inflow numbers. At every major fork in the road, the PEIR Hydrology takes the lesser inflow number. I list now several, but not all, examples:

- On H2-11 the statement is made that "The USGS, ...independently measured flows and provided estimates of total direct IID drain flows to the Salton for years 1961 to1962. The value reported by USGS for 1961 to 1962 are significantly higher (about two times greater) than that estimated by IID for the same period." Yet IID, data was used "to provide consistency". In the one year mentioned, it appears that IID reported 54,900afy less than USGS. That is a significant difference.

- The PEIR assigns numbers to increased evaporation which is assumed to be due to global warming over the75 year period; "2.3 inches/year by 2035 and 5.3 inches/year by 2078." (H2-83) Yet we do not know the effect of global warming. [One governmental report said higher rainfall and humidity. That report has been declared as having used old data and the general opinion is that we simply do not know.] On what basis does the PEIR use a figure for their MonteCarlo model which lowers net gain from present evaporation values? The problem is not that they chose to evaluate the effects of higher temperature and lower humidity. The problem is that they used only lower inflow producing weather data in their modeling.

PL-5

PL-6

PL-7

PL (cont.)

PL-5

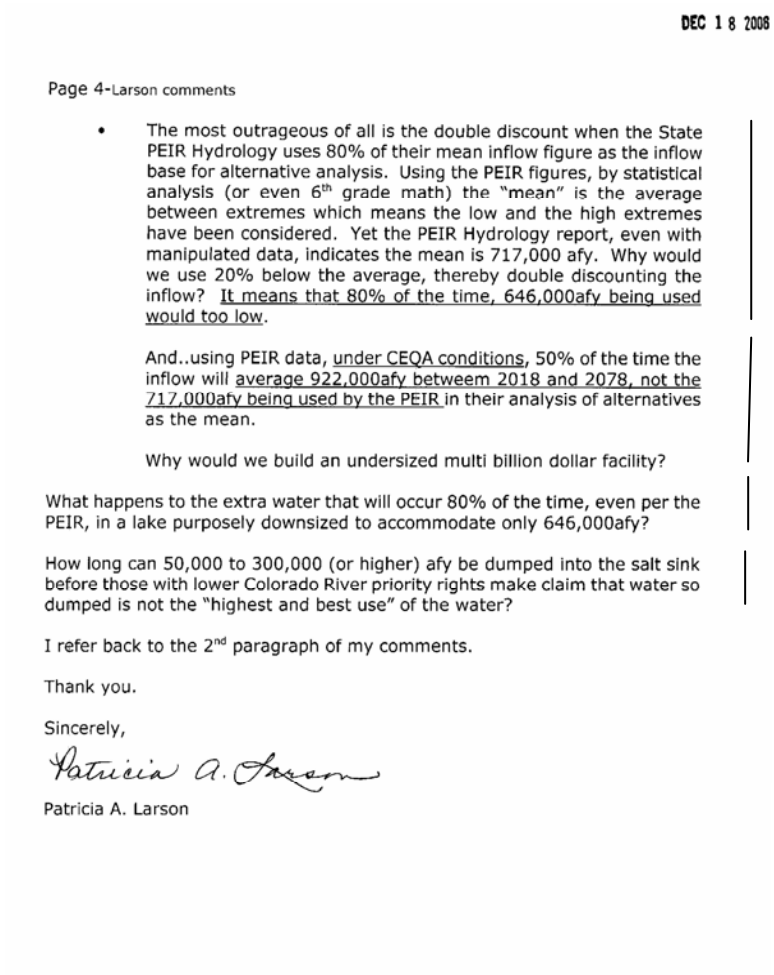
The Draft PEIR considered two alternative future hydrologic conditions: No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions and No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions. The No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions are based on the CEQA Guidelines which limits consideration to those projects and actions to those that are reasonably foreseeable (which, for the purposes of the Draft PEIR was determined to be projects that have already undergone environmental permitting). Due to the long planning horizon for this project and the sensitivity of the Salton Sea conditions to inflows, a broader interpretation was necessary and appropriate. The No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions considered a broader range of possible future conditions, including possible future water management changes, as discussed in Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR.

PL-6

As discussed in Appendix H-2, the USGS (Hely et al., 1966), as part of an evaluation of evaporation at the Salton Sea, independently measured flows and provided estimates of total direct IID drain flows to the Salton Sea for years 1961–62. These values were found to be greater that than those estimated by IID for the same period. The USGS also found that their computed historical Imperial Valley flows, while differing from those of IID on an individual year basis, were nearly identical over the 13-year period in which they were computed (Hely et al., 1966). The USGS did not continue measurement of the drains beyond the two-year program. IID maintains the only long-term records of Imperial Valley direct drains to the Salton Sea and also provided projections of these drainage flows for future years.

PL-7

discussed in Appendix H-2, the future water budget considered the best available ence regarding the effects of climate change in the region of the Salton Sea. The ure climate scenarios included in the Draft PEIR are consistent with those utilized he Climate Action Team Report by the California Environmental Protection ency (CalEPA, 2006) and cited in the Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR. These narios indicate a strong trend toward increasing temperature, but relatively little nge in total precipitation. As described in Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR, four nate projections from emission-model scenarios utilized in the Climate Action am Report were evaluated at grid locations centered near the Salton Sea. These ults were consistent with that described above, indicating relatively little change, slight decreases, in total precipitation. These results are also consistent with lings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2001) Third sessment Report and recently released Fourth Assessment Report (IPCC, 2007). e Third Assessment Report is cited in the same section of the Draft PEIR, while Fourth Assessment Report was not yet published by the time of the Draft PEIR velopment. The Monte Carlo analysis considered the range of effects on poration from the lowest to the highest warming scenario.



DEC 1 8 2008

Page 4-Larson comments

- The most outrageous of all is the double discount when the State PEIR Hydrology uses 80% of their mean inflow figure as the inflow base for alternative analysis. Using the PEIR figures, by statistical analysis (or even 6th grade math) the "mean" is the average between extremes which means the low and the high extremes have been considered. Yet the PEIR Hydrology report, even with manipulated data, indicates the mean is 717,000 afy. Why would we use 20% below the average, thereby double discounting the inflow? It means that 80% of the time, 646,000afy being used would too low.

PL-8

And..using PEIR data, under CEQA conditions, 50% of the time the inflow will average 922,000afy betweem 2018 and 2078, not the 717,000afy being used by the PEIR in their analysis of alternatives as the mean.

PL-9

Why would we build an undersized multi billion dollar facility?

PL-10

What happens to the extra water that will occur 80% of the time, even per the PEIR, in a lake purposely downsized to accommodate only 646,000afy?

PL-11

How long can 50,000 to 300,000 (or higher) afy be dumped into the salt sink before those with lower Colorado River priority rights make claim that water so dumped is not the "highest and best use" of the water?

I refer back to the 2nd paragraph of my comments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Larson

Patricia A. Larson

PL (cont.)

PL-8

The "mean" future inflow is the average of all possible futures and not simply an analysis of a mid-point between extremes. In the analysis presented in Appendix H-2 in the Draft PEIR, the "mean" inflow would be exceeded in many possible future conditions. Likewise, for many other possible future conditions the flows would be less than the "mean" inflow. As discussed in Appendix H-2 "Considering Uncertainty in Sizing/Placement of Major Infrastructure", the selection of the appropriate inflow for use in sizing or placement of major infrastructure is a function of uncertainty and risk. For the Draft PEIR, a conservative approach was taken such that the alternative configurations developed by the Resources Agency would function for 80 percent of the possible future conditions. This does not mean that "80% of the time, 646,000 af/yr being used would be too low" as suggested by the commenter. It does mean there is uncertainty regarding the future inflows and, given this level of uncertainty and desire for the alternatives to function over most possible conditions, a low level of risk was assumed. As discussed in Appendix H-2, similar evaluations of trade-offs and risk are part of many hydrologic or hydraulic analyses such as the sizing of flood control levees or water supply dams (failure or yield versus cost). Levees and dams are not designed for the average expected inflow; nor should structures at the Salton Sea.

The Resources Agency respectively disagrees with the commenter's suggestion that "manipulated data" was used in the Draft PEIR. The Resources Agency has taken great strides to perform a comprehensive analysis of the hydrologic conditions affecting the Salton Sea that has included extensive coordination and input from stakeholders.

PL-9

As discussed in response PLarson-a-5, the No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions was based on the CEQA Guidelines. Due to the long planning horizon for this project and the sensitivity of the Salton Sea conditions to inflows, a broader interpretation was necessary and appropriate. The No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions considered a broader range of possible future conditions, including possible future water management changes, as discussed in Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR. The Resources Agency's goal was to develop alternatives that would be long-lasting and not be at risk of failure given the uncertainty of future inflows. For these reasons a conservative inflow was considered in placement/sizing of major infrastructure. If, as the commenter appears to suggest, the infrastructure should be placed considering higher future inflows, the alternative would not function should these flows not materialize.

PL (cont.)

PL-10

Each of the alternatives considered in the Draft PEIR was analyzed for the range of flows under No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions and No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions. The detailed results of these analyses are shown in Appendix H-2, Attachment 2 and are summarized in various parts of the Draft PEIR, including Chapter 5 “Surface Water Resources”. In addition, the performance of each alternative for individual hydrologic traces representing 600,000 acre-feet/yr, 700,000 acre-feet/yr, 800,000 acre-feet/yr, and 900,000 acre-feet/yr average annual inflows is included in these sections.

PL-11

The commenter identifies a legal and policy issue that is outside of the scope of the Draft PEIR.

From: ROBERT LOZOYA
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Re:Saving the salton Sea
Date: Thursday, January 11, 2007 4:08:49 PM
Attachments:

I am thoroughly opposed to squandering taxpayer money to "Save" the Salton sea.

The sea was created by an accident. Nature is now trying to fix this mistake. This should be obvious by the natural state of the lake.

If the local residents want to create a water park in the desert to promote tourism and increase property values then they should issue a local bond to pay for it. The state does not have the money to do it.

Robert Lozoya

RLozoya-1

Robert Lozoya (RLozoya)

RLozoya-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 9, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to urge the California Department of Water Resources to do the right thing and work to restore a lost resource that is vital to the area and our wildlife. **RLynn-1**

It is easy to allow a consultant to prepare a report to say what he thinks you want said. It is more important and noble to just do the right thing no matter how difficult it may be.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Rodney Lynn
1210 Brandy Lake View Cir
Winter Garden, FL 34787-5845

Rodney Lynn (RLynn)

RLynn-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Bababa Lin
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea
Date: Sunday, December 31, 2006 11:07:50 AM
Attachments:

Dec 31, 2006

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing regarding the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR). While I agree that the State of California must take action in order to prevent health problems from dust and to save the Sea, the current proposals are not acceptable because each one would in turn cause massive health problems and/or environmental degradation. I would ask that instead the State implement the "evolved alternative" that combines the best of the proposals. This alternative has been outlined in letters from the Salton Sea Coalition, Audubon California and other environmental groups, and I support it as well.

As someone who loves birds and visits the Salton Sea regularly, I urge you to do the same. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tonny Lin

TLin-1

Tonny Lin (TLin)

TLin-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Our responsibility as humans that have inherited this world is to protect it and make it better. That inlcudes protecting the abundant life around us. We are affected by our own actions just as much, if not more, than all the species of plants and animals that try to live in the same world as us.

The Salten Sea is an important stop for many species of migratory birds. Imagine traveling hundreds of miles and not having an appropriate place to rest. These birds need our help to protect them, they don't need any more help in their demise.

Besides ensuring birds with an adequate place to rest and live, the destruction of the Sea will have tolls on humans as well.

The world works as one long chain, interconnected by dividing links. No matter how remote one topic seems to be from another, they are all connected. And that connection includes humans. The more we destroy our surroundings, the more we set ourselves up for our own demise.

Please protect the lives of these migratory birds, the fish that live in the Sea, and the lives of all animals and plants across the globe. It is our duty.

Sincerely,

Tanya Lindley
226 Washington Blvd
Fayetteville, NY 13066-1114

TLindley-1

Tanya Lindley (TLindley)

TLindley-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Allyn Meyer
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: The Salton Sea
Date: Monday, December 04, 2006 5:26:28 PM
Attachments:

Now that you are begging for money from Chevron, health insurance companies, and anyone else you can think of, to have a big party for yourself, we can see why millions of us dont have health insurance and energy prices are so high!!! You are reverting back to a typical "republican" Explicative deleted

How about doing something for us and try to save the Salton Sea!!!

Allyn Meyer allynsue@hotmail.com

AMeyer-1

Allyn Meyer (AMeyer))

AMeyer-1

This comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration.

Please support this worthwhile endeavor.

We need to make sure that the species of birds that live in the area have a habitat in which they can thrive.

All life on earth is dependent on all other life on earth. We must do our part to keep the chain of life strong by maintaining natural habitats of living creatures.

Sincerely,
Ann Morris
5902 Thonotosassa Road
Plant City, FL 33565-5714

AMorris-1

Ann Morris (AMorris)

AMorris-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 4:18:39 PM

Any plan for Salton Sea restoration must be economically viable. The concentric lakes option seems the most viable because dramatic decrease in cost because of the Geotube berms that can be filled with material from the sea bed. If the first lake could be extended up the West shore and installed within a couple of years the value of the Salton Sea properties could dramatically increase. If a redevelopment like district was created so that the increase in property tax could be used to help pay for the improvements it could return the Salton Sea to the second most popular tourist attraction in California. We have sand, water, and sun with in two hours of the largest population base in the Western United States. The water in the New and Alamo Rivers has already significantly improved in quality. Berms with the water going over six inch drops along the New and Alamo Rivers could increase the oxygen content and facilitate nature using the nutrients that are in the water. This is the same system that is used in many water treatment plants. The water could be directed toward the West shore with a lake that is a mile to half mile wide it could dramatically improve the economy of Cochella and Imperial Valleys. Allowing private harvesting of the fish would also decrease the nutrient load of the Sea. If the concentric lakes option is chosen and fallowing in Imperial Irrigation District could be discontinued it would add thousands of jobs back into the community, while restoring a stable shore line with habitat for a diversity of fish and wildlife, dramatically improve water quality, and decrease air quality impacts. The current plan for the concentric lakes indicates land that is currently under the Sea could be washed with fresh water and reclaimed to grow plant life that could be harvested or used for wild life refuges. The Imperial and Coachella Valleys were at one time all under an inland dead sea. Crops are currently grown up to the shore of the Sea. East and North shores recede the land could be reclaimed for agricultural or residential uses. A real estate developer once volunteered to pay for the berms if he could rent out recreational vehicle spaces on top of the berms.

Blake Miles
940 N. 14th St.
El Centro CA 92243
(760) 353-4663

BMiles-1

Blake Miles (BMiles)

BMiles-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

BMiles (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Hi. I understand you're taking comments on the proposal to restore the Salton Sea. I know how valuable it is as a stopover for migrating birds, and would like to see it preserved and restored. It not only benefits of the bird population, but obviously, as with an living body of water, it cleanses the water and preserves the water table in its area.

It's my understanding that the current proposals don't go far enough to protect and restore the Salton Sea. I suggest you follow the guidelines proposed by Defenders of Wildlife, since I know their experts have studied and reviewed the current plans.

Thanks for your consideration.

Beth Montes

Sincerely,

Beth Montes
8330 E Big Horn Trl
Tucson, AZ 85750-9620

BMontes-1

Beth Montes (BMontes)

BMontes-1

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please take steps to protect the Salton Sea. It is important to many birds who are dependent on it. **CM-1**

Sincerely,

Claudia Mcniff
1623 E Candlestick Dr
Tempe, AZ 85283-2184

Claudia Mcniff (CM)

CM-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Efron Morrison (EM)

From: Efron Morrison
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC: pat.cooper@sen.ca.gov; DCain@saltonsea.ca.gov; michelle.stevens@imperial.edu; saltyc1@earthlink.net; RonNVi@aol.com; SaveOurSea2000@aol.com; redearthrb@msn.com; jscain@netzero.com; rdanials@saltonsea.ca.gov; saltonsea.law@gmail.com;
Subject: saving the sea, another way
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 10:25:09 PM
Attachments:

Please excuse my lateness in getting this out, but we are having a hell of a time with our email. We can recieve but can't send. I finally realized that I can send by going on the net and doing yahoo.com ... my Outlook is all screwed up! ... Everett ...

LET’S SAVE THE WHOLE SEA
Or, throw a monkey wrench into the soup; it’ll taste better!
By Everett English, Editor ~ The Salton Seafarer
Around the Salton Sea, national politics are secondary to the real issue … which plan will be used to clean up the sea? Or to put it another way, how are they going to chop it up? Many people have reluctantly agreed that the sea will have to be chopped to less than half its size, in order to save it, but very few of us know why such a drastic reduction must be made, and most of us still would prefer to find an alternative.
That answer reminds me of the Dalton Trumbo book “Johnny Got His Gun” I read long ago about a young WWI soldier who was badly blown up. As well as his loss of sight, hearing, voice, and smell, they cut off all his limbs in order to save him. It was an early experiment on how far could they go and still keep him “alive”.

I’m afraid that our sea will end up the same. I have a question: if we will loose only 15% of our water to San Diego, why must we loose 60% of our lake?

I’m one who still believes that none of the eight plans are good answers. I agree that the Salton Sea Authority’s plan is the best of the bunch, but I don’t look forward to seeing that obtrusive dike in my now beautiful view of the sea. One thing is for sure, we have to do something and no-action is not viable. As the plan now sits, that dike will be approximately right down the middle of Salton Sea Beach, to just a stone wall in front of Salton City. Of course that can change, as the plan still has room and time to change, and the SSA members have recently shown a much better effort to be inclusive of other ideas, but I don’t think that will eliminate the dike, just push it north or south from where they show it on their present maps.

Part of my concern about any of the plans is, I don’t believe they really take into account a much bigger picture of what is in the future for the Imperial Valley. South of us, in the El Centro area, plans are being made for a larger airport, as well as an even bigger project, a transportation hub for all the industry south of the border. We could use both of those endeavors and they’d better get started asap so the Imperial Valley will become a major player in the California economy. This transportation hub would be integral to the transportation corridor built from the Long Beach – Los Angeles Harbors out to the Riverside area. That was built because there is no more space for wharehousing in L.A. County. Having the transportation hub for industry south of the boarder would be a huge economical boost to the Imperial Valley. Remember, that isn’t just for the industry in Mexicali, it’s for industry all the way to South American countries.

With both of these future projects will come much infrastructure and a projected growth of over 250,000 people for the El Centro area. So again, the most important question should be, where will all the water

EM-1

EM (cont.)

EM-1

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

come from? All that developing industry around Mexicali, south of the border, needs consideration, too. A very important factor must also be the agriculture around the Salton Sea, as well as south of the border.

Water is the blood of civilization. Look back in history, going back to all of the Egyptian Dynasties. Each owed their very existence on the rise and fall of the Nile River. Some Dynasties lasted over a hundred years, only because the Nile gave lots of water for that time. Some were short, just as the Nile gave for only that short period of time. The first Dynasty was actually started by a king who founded the capital, Memphis, by damming the Nile to reclaim land for the city.

The Roman Empire is another good example. They built aqueducts; the marvels of engineering for that era. But they lined them with lead, and slowly poisoned themselves into what many historians considered a major factor (but not the only) that ended the Roman Empire; madness, dementia, and poor health. In recent years, we’ve seen the fertile farming in the Russian and many European countries wasted by industries that were allowed to pollute their rivers.

We live in the most fertile farming area in the whole country. We owe this to our consistently warm sun that shines all year round, as well as our abundant water supply, the Colorado River. This summer, we’ll have a full Colorado River, due to the biggest snow storms to hit the Midwest. The eastern states will see just the opposite if they don’t get a good snow storm to fill their rivers this winter. They will see record droughts that may convince them that Global Warming is for real. The Cherry Blossoms have already bloomed in Washington, D.C. and we’ve seen on the news the golfers in New England who are usually skiing this time of year. I guess there are still a few non-believers who think the polar bears aren’t victims of Global Warming; they’re committing suicide.

Ya! …and so are the icebergs!

EM-2

EM (cont.)

EM-2

As described in Chapter 1 of the Draft PEIR (see page 1-3), the ability to use the Salton Sea for a repository of agricultural drainage was protected when President Calvin Coolidge in 1924 and 1928 ordered specific sections of land under the Salton Sea to be withdrawn from settlement, location, sale, or entry, and reserved for the purposes of creating a drainage reservoir. At this time there is no intent to change the Salton Sea as a repository for drainage water.

People here in the Imperial Valley will probably need a lot more convincing that global climates are changing as long as the Colorado River keeps its abundant flow, but we will see a big change just because of population growth in the Imperial Valley. If we grow to the predicted numbers, where will all the water come from that will be needed for that much population and infrastructure? What if droughts hit the Midwest and we start seeing less water coming down the Colorado?

Well, we don’t have to look far or too long ago to remember that Orange County used to be big ranches, big orange groves, big farms and dairies. I can remember when my uncle moved to Huntington Beach from Long Beach back in 1966; I helped him move and couldn’t understand why he wanted to move to an area that smelled heavily of the dairy cows across the road. Is there a single dairy cow, much less an orange grove, left anywhere in Orange County now?

We won’t be able to support all that growth and infrastructure and still keep our farming community. There isn’t enough water for both to exist. On top of that, seven states up-river will want more of their share of water, and they come first.

Do any of the Salton Sea plans really take that growth and change into account? I don’t really think so, because even if they cut the sea down to its future size of about 40% or less than what it is right now, it will still be dependant on farming runoff to fill it. Don’t forget, our water rights are based on farmers’ needs and the sea is dependant on that. Eliminating them and adding thousands of people will change our water rights just as much as other entities and states that will want more of that water in the future. It will also change the runoff to brown water, which will only compound the sea’s present problems and require massive sewage circulation ponds which are very poor substitutes for the farm runoff we have now. Right now, they want to make California’s largest lake smaller than Lake Tahoe. With this lack of foresight,

EM-3

EM (cont.)

EM-3

The Draft PEIR addresses land use and population and housing in Chapters 11 and 12, respectively. It is expected that most of the area around the Salton Sea would continue to remain in agricultural production and that water demands from future population growth would be met through water conservation. The inflows analysis conducted for the Draft PEIR accounts for these potential future changes.

EM (cont.)

we might eventually end up smaller than Lake Elsinore!

So that’s what it’s all about … it’s the water! Have you noticed that in most communities, people now run for the water boards rather than city councils? That’s where the true power is; it’s all about the water.

I know this is probably a bit late and throwing a monkey wrench into all the Granfalloon answers of saving our Salton Sea, but saving the sea might be better done if we look at the problem from a different angle. Perhaps “saving the sea” isn’t the answer. Perhaps dealing with all that infrastructure, as well as all the growth projected for the West Shores, is the real problem and we should take a deeper look at how we can save our farming communities along with that growth. Saving the sea could then become the after effect of dealing with the problems of population growth. Sometimes, its best not to attack what the present problem is, but by solving other problems, we can heal what we perceive to be the problem.

In other words, we need to look to our future growth for our answers. The sea can be saved in its present size if we tackle those other problems. We will need water for all the growth projected for the Imperial Valley, and let’s not forget the growth that’s approaching us from the Coachella Valley. Part of the Salton Sea Authority’s plan to pay for the costs of building that dike will be paid by building over 200,000 homes around the north end of the sea. That’s more homes than San Diego proper, and don’t forget, they won 15% of our water by taking it to court. They won’t get that water for several more years, but things can change … much like the climate. The tables have changed and they can change again; a precedent has been set. Where’s all that water going to come from? Do you really think we’ll get it from the Colorado? Worse yet, what if Global Warming affects the winter snow deposits in the Midwest. If that happens, that sea out there may dry up and turn into

the 2nd lowest land in the U.S., just five feet higher than Death Valley. Is that the tourist attraction we want?

Many people think it would be a good idea to build canals to the Sea of Cortez, but if that became the answer, we’d be signing agreements for over 50 years with two countries, several counties, and every town and farmer from here to there.

Other people have suggested a pipeline over (or through) the mountains to the Pacific Ocean, an endless supply of water. That is closer to the answer, but far too expensive, especially for just saving the sea. The expense really has to be taken into account, because let’s face it, the sea is attractive and has become one of the greatest bird migration spots in the world, but hardly an excuse for spending billions of dollars with no other real reason other than we like the view and the birds. Also, desalinating plants are expensive, and they would be needed for any pipeline or canals.

EM-4

But if water is brought in for that infrastructure and population growth, then it can be paid for by their use. Of course, it will require a much larger water delivery and desalinating system than needed to just clean the sea, but its use by homes, farming, industry and general infrastructure would be paid by them and therefore become real bang for the bucks. The best part would be the very little expense of continuing a pipeline to the Salton Sea compared to any of the eight plans of shrinking it to the size the engineers in all their wisdom have imagined now. We would be in the unique position of having two great water sources, so that even in a drought situation, we would have an abundance of water.

We also need to look at water supply systems in a much more advanced way than the easy ways we’ve gotten it in the past. Water is becoming as precious as fuel. The world is much more populated, now around 6.5 billion people, almost double what it was in 1965, and that was double what it was in 1900. At that rate, we are expected to reach 8 billion by 2020.

EM (cont.)

EM-4

Municipal growth in the IID water service area would not result in additional water to the Salton Sea. Water would be expected to come from reductions in irrigation applications resulting in less drainage water that would otherwise flow to the Salton Sea.

Yes, we’ll always have water, but much less to go around. We get less water when San Diego took a slice of our share, imagine what it’ll be like when those seven states up-river leave us with may end up as just a trickle.

Again, we won’t be able to increase the population and growth of the Imperial Valley and keep our valuable farming at the same time. Population growth in extraordinarily hot areas such as this also requires more water per capita than in normal climate areas, so that must also be taken into consideration.

New growth will create new problems, so we need new answers. We can pipe water into the I.V. along the border and end up using much less of the Colorado River water and still save the Salton Sea as the end result. The water we pipe in can be desalinated to industrial and agricultural levels, therefore not requiring as much desalination or expense and use the Colorado River for our drinking water. Of course, this will require a much more sophisticated water system, but that’s ok, because whatever we build isn’t there now, we have a clean slate so it can be done; we just need to think about water delivery in a future world, not continue what the Egyptians taught us five thousand years ago!

By piping it along the border, and crossing the border wherever it’s at a lower level, we can deliver the water much less expensively than crossing mountains. We can make this a two country project, the U.S. and Mexico, and share that water, because Baja is growing too, and that will greatly cut the expense of such a project as well as being a good neighbor for both countries. Smaller customized desalinating plants can be built at many places, nearer to its usage. In some places, water will be desalinated for agriculture, and some places, even for drinking. I seriously doubt that we will ever take too much out of the Pacific Ocean. And if Global Warming is truly coming, we’ll be more worried about too much Pacific Ocean! By the way, desalination is completely viable. San Diego County

EM-5

EM (cont.)

EM-5

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, these alternatives were considered but were not carried forward as alternatives in the Draft PEIR. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico. The importation of water from the Pacific Ocean was not carried forward because the alternative has the potential to have substantial biological and water quality impacts in the Pacific Ocean and thus, did not appear to be feasible to obtain the necessary permits and approvals.

The concept of desalinization to control salinity has not been implemented on the large scale required at the Salton Sea. However, this concept could be considered on a smaller scale and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and others are currently conducting a pilot project related to desalination of Salton Sea water. Desalination of Salton Sea water could be considered further during project-level analysis.

is now starting to build one for its population in the North County. Don’t let anyone tell you it doesn’t work. It’s working in the Middle East, India

One-third of the world’s population lives in countries with insufficient freshwater to support the population, so desalinating is the only viable answer as the world continues to increase it’s human populations, farming and industries. Right now, desalinating costs about $2 per 1000 gallons, about twice the costs of fresh water. But those costs will get cheaper as we increase its usage, just as fresh water will become more expensive. Eventually, desalinating may become as cheap as fresh water. Some people have said that piping water along the border would be impossible because there are Indian lands along the border who wouldn’t want a pipeline across their land, but at the same time, they’ve been talking about a bullet train from San Diego to transport people to that new airport. Why would anyone want a bullet train crossing their land and not a water pipeline they can share from? I think that argument is a matter of convenience for those who don’t want to look outside the box they’ve so cleverly chosen to sit in. In fact, I’ve heard several nick-pickings against this idea, things like, *** water district won’t allow anything but farm runoff to fill the lake … this and all the other reasons are nothing more than man-made reasons that can be man-undone. I suppose if this plane of importing water from the Pacific were what the SSA was planning, then this dike they now like would be impossible for the mirror-logic no-no’s they say now. We can do whatever we want to do … as long as we agree that’s what we want to do.

If we were to build such a pipeline, there would be an abundance of water, and we would use a fraction of the Colorado River if we used it for drinking water only. Again, we would have two excellent water sources, enriching our valley beyond any other U.S.

EM-6

EM (cont.)

EM-6

Refer to response to comment EM-5.

EM-6 cont.

community’s potential growth. The farmers would get all the water they need from the desalinated pipelines, and population growth and golf courses wouldn’t affect them at all. The final result would be what we around the sea really want, our beautiful view, abundant birds, and a shoreline that will always be right where we want it, about five feet higher than it is right now. Best of all, it would end up the cheapest way to save the sea because most of the expense would be paid by the population and industrial growth that would come with the pipeline. Desalinated water would fill the sea so the fish, fisherman, boats, recreation and good old days would be better than ever!

That would make me very happy. I love to watch the sun come up over the sea while I’m making my morning coffee. I would hate to see the sun rising over a levee instead.

Oh, ya! First dibs on the name. I want to call it “The English Canal”.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Short, sweet, & to the point:

They cannot speak for themselves.....SOMEONE has to protect them and their habitats. WE are the stewards of this planet....and everything we do has consequences...

Sincerely,

Gail Miller
318 rt 250
norwalk, OH 44857

GM-1

Gail Miller (GM)

GM-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Mark McClure
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea comment
Date: Tuesday, January 02, 2007 8:19:57 AM
Attachments:

Regarding the decision about the future of the Salton Sea, I ask you to fund the cheapest environmentally sound solution. Please do not fund a recreational lake for thd Salton Sea region; we can't afford it.

On the other hand, environmental concerns make it imperative to retain a shallow wetland for our animal brothers and to keep the toxic dust down.

Sincerely,

James M. McClure
5080 Rhoads Ave. #E
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
(805) 967-5031

JMCClure-1

James McClure (JMcClure)

JMcClure-1

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Project funding is outside of the scope of the Draft PEIR. However, as required by the project's legislative mandates, a Funding Plan has been prepared for the Preferred Alternative. This Funding Plan identifies a variety of potential sources of funding for restoration actions at the Salton Sea.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Unfortunately, most proposed alternatives in the PEIR fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in the Salton Sea area. The PEIR does, however, contain the components and information necessary to formulate a successful plan.

Please incorporate the following features into a final preferred alternative that would meet legal requirements for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

* Establish between 38,000 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

* Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

* Provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea (Similar to the proposals found in Alternatives 5-7);

* Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

* Construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and

* Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

JMurphy-1

Judy Murphy (JMurphy)

JMurphy-1

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- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

LISTEN THIS IS WHERE I COME IN!!!!!! NOW FOR TOO LONG IT SEEMS THAT YOUR STATE HAS POISONED VAST AREAS OF WATER AREAS FOR MIGRANTORY BIRDS..... LIKE THAT AREA AROUND WHAT IS THAT AREA NOW!!!!! OH YES BY THAT AREA WHERE ALL THE VINYARDS ARE THE NAPPA VALLEY IS IT WHERE YOU HAVE TO SET OFF FIRECRACKERS OFF TO CHASE AWAY THE BIRDS SO THEY WONT DIE !!!!!! REMEMBER THAT ONE !!!!!! THAT IS TO NAME A BIG ONE!!!! NOW THERE ISNT MUCH AREA WHERE THESE BIRDS HAVE A PLACE TO GO!!!!!! IT ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE HUMANS FIRST ANIMALS LAST NOT ANY MORE BECAUSE ANIMALS HAVE A GOD GIVEN RIGHT TO LIVE TOO AND HUMANS IT SEEMS KIVE FOR JUST PLEASURE ANYMORE GROW UP OUT THERE IN CALIF..... TOO MANY BIG HOUSES AND TOOMUCH LAND IS GOING TO WASTE ALL FOR THE GREED OF THE DOLLAR..... STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES!!!!!! AND LET WILDLIFE HAVE ITS PLACE..... AND GIVE IT TO THEM FOR ONE DAY THEY MIGHT NOT BE AROUND BECAUSE OF THE GREED OF CALIFORNIA FOR THAT DOLLAR AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY TO GOD WHEN YOU MEET HIM AND YOU DID NOTHING TO HELP THEM WHEN YOU COULD, WHAT AE YOU GOING TO SAY TO YOUR GRAND CHILDREN ONE DAY WHEN THEY SHOW YOU A PICTURE IN A BOOK AND YOU TELL HER THAT THEY USE TO COME HERE AND THEY AE NO MORE!!!!!! NOW WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY THEN!!!!!!! SO THINK AND USE YOUR BRAIN AS GOD HAS INTENDED WE ARE STEWARDS OF THIS ENTIRE EARTH AND THAT MEANS ALL WILDLIFE NOT JUST SOME BUT ALL OF IT!!!!!!

Sincerely,

JUDY MURPHY
4206 74th St N Lot 382
Riviera Beach, FL 33404-3952

JMurphy-1 cont.

JMurphy (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Kimberly Mathis-Jones (KMathis-Jones)

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea --

Humans are clearing enough Wild life when they build homes. What happens is the Wild life gets killed. Don't do this to Miggrating birds and other animals,they need the Salton sea more than we do. So PLEASE!! Put your best foot forward and help these animals.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Mathis-Jones
1041 Cove Dr
Warrington, PA 18976-1777

KMathis-Jones-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please prevent the Salten sea from dieing. I had spent many years down there enjoying the plae. To think that my Grandchildren will never see it is terrable. Please help save the Sea!

Sincerely,

Kirk Mclaren
18 Boxwood Ln
Newport News, VA 23602-5404

KMclaren-1

Kirk Mclaren (KMclaren)

KMclaren-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please save the Salton Sea. Help the birds

Sincerely,

Kerrie Monahan
3712 Raycraft Rd
Woodstock, IL 60098-8306

KMonahan-1

Kerrie Monahan (KMonahan)

KMonahan-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I have relatives who live in California.

Have you learned nothing from the disaster that the Aral Sea has become?

Do we need to destroy all wildlife except ourselves? We will not find life worth living!

Sincerely,

Margaret Mathis
PO Box 187
Morris, NY 13808-0187

MMathis-1

Margaret Mathis (MMathis)

MMathis-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Mark Miller (MMiller)

From: Mark Miller

To: scolvard@audubon.org; scifiwire@scifi.com; schul072@gold.tc.umn.edu; schoodic@mac.com; SchNEWS-l@gn.apc.org; scatcatxx@yahoo.com; scams@cbsnews.com; scampana@audubon.org; sc@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov; sbrown@wildidaho.org; sbreslin@audubon.org; sbotta@mail.yellowstone.net; Sbirch3@aol.com; sbilben@audubon.org; sbien@mainewest.com; savingiceland@riseup.net; savewolf@comcast.net; savethemattole@yahoo.com; savethecoast@sierraclub.org; Savebiosphere3@Verizon.net; savebay@savesfbay.org; savebanningranch@yahoo.com; satreat@colby.edu; SAT@cbsnews.com; sarro@msmc.edu; sarah.lundstrum@sierraclub.org; sarah.baker@sierraclub.org; sara.figueroa@presstelegram.com; sara.chappell@sierraclub.org; sara.carter@dailybulletin.com; saoirsem@hotmail.com; SantaRosaPublicComment@fire.ca.gov; santa@dnet.net; santa.lucia.chapter@sierraclub.org; sanet-mg@ces.ncsu.edu; sandyreed@cableone.net; sandydes@exo.com; sandy@versales.com; sandy@ren.net; sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org; sandrasthompson@cox.net;

CC: sandra_jordan@ppfa.org; sandra@sandracress.com; sandra.mata@presstelegram.com; sandiego-oneclub-forum-subscribe-request@lists.sierraclub.org; SANDIEGO-GLS-NEWS@lists.sierraclub.org; sandiegocab@aol.com; Sandie@inveserve.com; san.diego.chapter@sierraclub.org; samuraiinternational@talk21.com; SamGarst@aol.com; samdonaldson@ABCNEWS.com; Samantha.L.Green@ABCNEWS.com; sam@environmentaladvocacy.org; sam@caretakerfarm.org; sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org; sam.verhovek@latimes.com; sam.sykes@atkinsglobal.com; sam.howe.verhovek@latimes.com; salventura@operamail.com; SaltonSeaComments; sally@theecologist.org; sallie.callanen@delaware.sierraclub.org; salesdev@latimes.com; sales@northgrum-it.eu.com; sales@larrywinslett.com;

sales@internetfilter.com; sales@bertling.com; sales@advertiseu.com; safran41@gmail.com; sae@popact.org; saddamdossier@gmail.com; sacto@drugpolicy.org; s4a@riseup.net; s.sturts@Verizon.net; s.rae.schnapp@ibm.net; s.bard@comcast.net; ryoung@audubon.org; rydgren@aol.com; ryan@neokhmer.com; ryan.ritchie@presstelegram.com; ryan.renz@abc.com;

Subject: When Long Beach and Boeing LIE - Baby Birds DIE
Date: Thursday, December 14, 2006 6:45:22 AM
Attachments:

When Long Beach and Boeing LIE - Baby Birds DIE

How did the City of Long Beach and Boeing destroy the largest heron nesting site in Southern California? Read On!

In 1999 the Port of Long Beach relocated the largest Great Blue and Black-Crowned Night Heron nesting site in Southern California. The nesting site was moved to Gull Park on Terminal Island. The nesting site was moved in order to accommodate the development of a large container terminal on Terminal Island. Boeing exclusively operates the Eastern third of the Sea Launch facility immediately next to the heron nesting site. Here, Boeing assembles satellites to be attached to the Sea Launch rocket.

THE PORT OF LONG BEACH'S FIRST LIE:
The Port of Long Beach signed an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stating that the Port would maintain the nesting site and replace any trees that died. If the nesting site failed the Port agreed to improve heron nesting sites elsewhere. In the last five years the Port has not been watering the trees. Numerous trees have died and the Port has done nothing. Furthermore, all the herons disappeared five years ago and the Port has not made any effort on it's obligations with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to assist the herons.

BOEING'S FIRST LIE:
During the planning stage it was agreed that Boeing would NOT build a permanent satellite fueling facility in favor of small portable tanks that are safer. After agreeing with the Long Beach Fire Department and informing the public in

MMiller-1

MMiller (cont.)

MMiller-1

This comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

MMiller (cont.)

the Environmental Impact Report that they will not build a large unsafe fueling facility, Boeing went ahead and built the unsafe fueling facility anyway.

At first the relocation of the largest Black-Crowned Night Heron nesting site in Southern California was successful. The monitoring in 2000 at Gull Park found 1,128 young in 423 nests.

BOEING'S SECOND LIE:
In 2000 Boeing kept port officials away from the heron nesting site by intimidating them with the dangers of the permanent fueling facility. Although the fuel facility was not necessary for the fueling of satellites it is useful for intimidating port officials. Boeing required port government officials to undergo training, and then never offered it to them. Shortly after intimidating the port officials to stay away from the nesting site the bird population dropped dramatically.

Black-Crowned Night Heron nesting activities at Gull Park decreased dramatically in 2001. While 81 Black-Crowned Night Heron nests were started and at least 173 eggs were produced, only 25 chicks were observed at the Gull Park site. In 2003 no successful nesting was observed. "…the continued absence of the black-crowned night heron nesting at Gull Park remains unknown."

THE PORT OF LONG BEACH COVERS UP THEIR FAILURE.
Meanwhile the Executives at the Port of Long Beach continue to cover up the loss of the herons. Following is an excerpt from the Port Executives communication to their Board and the community.

"The seventh year of monitoring the black-crowned night heron colony at Gull Park on the Navy Mole was completed in August 2005."

Note that there is no reference to the fact that the colony was destroyed six years ago and there has not been any nesting since. The Port Executives simply mislead their Board of Harbor Commissioners and the community by not informing them of their failure.

THE TAXPAYERS PAY TWICE:
First the community's environment is shortchanged by the loss of the bird population. Then the taxpayer has to pay for the mitigation of this loss. The Port of Long Beach made a commitment with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that if

MMiller (cont.)

the relocation is not successful, the Port will prepare and implement a contingency plan that would expand and enhance rookeries elsewhere in Southern California.

HOW DOES SEALAUNCH STAY A-FLOAT ANY WAY?
The Sea Launch operation has been a loser since inception. Where does it get money to stay in business? There appears to be a generous number of Boeing employees at the facility. Is Boeing subsidizing the Sea Launch operation with Boeing employees and charging other operations like the federally funded C-17 program also in Long Beach? Sea Launch may not be a publicly traded company that is subject to SOX, but BOEING is!

THE EVIDENCE

To see the Gull Park heron nesting site and Boeing facility:
Go to http://maps.google.com/maps , type in 2700 Nimitz Rd. Long Beach, CA and switch to satellite view.

Port of Long Beach lack of acknowledgement of decrease in heron population.
Green port program, Quarterly Report #3
http://www.polb.com/civica/inc/displayblobpdf2.asp?BlobID=2562

Boeing's construction of illegal fueling facility:
United States Navy. Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, Volume I, For the Disposal and Reuse of Long Beach Complex, Long Beach, CA. April 1998 Page 2-20 and 3-94

Decline of herons at heron nesting site:
California Coastal Commission Revised Staff Recommendation: Report to Los Angeles County on Marina del Rey Periodic LCP Review. July 20, 2006 pages 158-159
http://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2006/8/T8a-8-2006.pdf

Boeing pressuring government officials to stay away:
Port of Long Beach. Letter to Sea Launch: Hazardous Operations Precautions. February 29, 2000, and conversations with Port of Long Beach staff. POLB staff stated that they are not able to visit the nesting site because Boeing never made the required training available.
1) Regularly, deliveries are made to and within the facility by untrained truck drivers.

MMiller (cont.)

2) The fuel facility was built and currently operated against OSHA regulations that require fuel and oxidizer to have separate secondary containment structures.
3) Boeing only has control of the property within their fence.

4) Most of the satellites do not use chemical propellant. They use inert gas Xeon Ion Propulsion. (http://www.boeing.com/defense-space/space/bss/factsheets/xips/xips.html)

Port of Long Beach responsibility:
http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-IMPACT/1998/June/Day-03/i14732.htm

Black-Crowned Night Heron nesting site:
MBC Applied Environmental Sciences, Black-Crowned Night Heron Study, Year 8, 2006 Nesting Season, Gull Park, Navy Mole, Long Beach, California, Final report. August 2006

From: oceansong177@hotmail.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 10:32:32 AM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration is vitally important.
I won't go into the details since I know you have received
thousands of emails about it already.

Please protect our precious world.

Sincerely,
N. J. Mac
2570 McMillan Street
Eugene, OR 97405-3115

NMac-1

N.J. Mac (NMac)

NMac-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From:	Richard
To:	SaltonSeaComments;
CC:	Hoffman-Floerke, Dale; Richard Daniels; jlevin@audubon.org; John Johnson; janet.wilson@latimes.com; Roger S Sprankle;
Subject:	Comments, Salton Sea restoration, 10/24/06
Date:	Tuesday, October 24, 2006 8:42:08 PM
Attachments:	

Comments, Salton Sea restoration

Re: quotes from http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-salton23oct23,1,6854051.story?coll=la-headlines-pe-california

State lists 10 ways to save the Salton Sea

"The 10 proposals outlined in the draft environmental impact report include a variety of dams, dikes and smaller lakes, at costs ranging from $2.3 billion to $5.9 billion in public funds." (Plus substantial annual operations and maintenance costs.) Sad. The rejected Lake Cahuilla proposal would cost about $0.6 billion to bring the salinity down from 46,000 ppm to 36,600 ppm in 12 years, continuing to less than 5,000 ppm in 50 years. This plan would produce net income increasing to about $0.12 billion/yr by the 12th year, depending on the going rate of electricity. Expenditures and income growth proceed in parallel. Water lost to the Sea due to QSA transfers and diminishing inflows would necessitate providing additional water which our proposal states would come from the installation of additional Solar Pond/Plants (SPPs) in the Gulf. Depending on the amount of the QSA transfers, this might mean an additional 1,000 SPPs, which would produce 1,000 MW of byproduct electricity. Pricing this electricity is difficult because price is utility specific, is usually secret, and will depended on whether or not the electricity gets a special price under RPS regulations. Assuming the Bloomberg, firm on-peak, day ahead spot/west coast 10/24/06 price of $72.06/Megawatt hour used above, the income climbs to $0.72 billion/yr net income after annual operations and maintenance costs. And the Sea level remains at -228 msl as it becomes the fresh water Lake Cahuilla once again.

RMa-1

Richard McKay (RMa)

RMa-1

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California was described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward as alternatives in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico. The use of solar ponds has been considered in prior Salton Sea studies (see Chapter 4 of the Draft PEIR). However, due to the large amount of water that would need to be treated, the use of solar ponds was not considered in detail in the Draft PEIR. However, future project-level analyses could further consider the use of solar ponds on a smaller scale.

RMa (cont.)

"Rick Daniels, executive director of the Salton Sea Authority, which is pushing for an ambitious 175-square-mile lake, said that alternative was the only one that would generate private revenue for restoration - an estimated $500 million to $1 billion over decades as shoreline resorts, homes and other projects are built." I suggest Rick Daniels read the Lake Cahuilla proposal which states that in restoring the Sea at full size, with nice, clean sandy beaches, Benefits to the Imperial Valley are left to the imagination of the reader. We did not think an economic benefits study was necessary.

"To re-create the sea as it was in the 1950s is probably not possible, but a more modest proposal is possible and feasible," said Julia Levin of Audubon California. I have advised Julia Levin to read the Lake Cahuilla Proposal.

"To be upfront, I don't think we will ever totally solve all the water quality issues Š or eliminate all the odors," Hoffman-Floerke said.

"It will never be turned into Lake Tahoe, but we will be restoring ecological values that don't exacerbate air quality and do protect wildlife."

Perhaps staff of Dale Hoffman-Floerke's Colorado and Salton Sea office for the California Department of Water Resources will elect to revisit the Lake Cahuilla Proposal in about five years, after Solar Power&Water is well along and fully engaged in our plans to make up for the deficiencies of the Colorado River.

The USBR has posted our Lake Cahuilla Proposal as Proposal on its web site as part of the Public Comments regarding the Bypass Flow Replacement or Recovery Methods. http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/bypass/comments.html

I wish the Salton Sea good luck with whichever alternative is selected.

Goodbye,
Richard McKay

Submitted on behalf of Solar Power&Water.

--
Richard McKay PhD richard@solarpowerandwater.com 805-441-1762
Solar Power&Water http://www.solarpowerandwater.com

From: Richard
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC: Hoffman-Floerke, Dale; Richard Daniels; John Johnson; Gerald Secundy; Laura.Harnish@CH2M.com; Snow, Lester; pat.mulroy@snwa.com; Roger S Sprankle;
Subject: A Public Comment on the PEIR
Date: Saturday, January 13, 2007 1:13:16 PM
Attachments:

via email
Attn: Chief Dale
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, California 95814

Noting that the comment period for the PIER closes on January 16, 2007, three days hence, I hereby submit my final comment.

We, Solar Power&Water, find it puzzling that our Lake Cahuilla Salton Sea proposal not only is not among the PIER Alternatives, but its existence is denied. Admittedly, our proposal to change the Salton Sea into a fresh water lake at full size and do it profitably entails novel technology. We state that for relatively little money, our plan can be tested. Regardless of successful demonstration of the technology, there would be unambiguous benefit to the Sea, starting early, not years later as with the PIER Alternatives. The early benefits component could be terminated if the plan is terminated, or it could continue.

RMb-1

Consider costs. The Alternatives include various levels of new infrastructure with construction costs ranging from $2.3 billion to $5.9 billion in today's dollars. And there will be significant maintenance costs. In comparison, ours would have a total expenditure of $139 million which gets totally paid off with increasing revenue from power sales to become very profitable, to say nothing about providing the benefit of producing renewable, sustainable power.

Consider results. The Alternatives all produce results which are an insult to the

Richard McKay (RMb)

RMb-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." Based on this statutory mandate, the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program is focused on the restoration of a marine, or saline, water body with salinities that range from 20,000 mg/L to over 200,000 mg/L.

RMb (cont.)

Sea, sure to produce some unexpected unfavorable consequences. All the Alternatives feature a reduced lake and various levels of artificial habitat protection and air quality management. Ours maintains the full Sea with salinity optionally less than that of the Colorado River.

Denial of our proposal existence. The reason all the Alternatives feature a reduced lake is that the existence or our proposal was denied, and so could not be an alternative. This denial is risky because much to our pleasant surprise, our Lake Cahuilla Proposal was posted in November 2005 by the USBR among the public comments on bypass flow replacement or recovery methods. http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/bypass/comments.html
It is still there for all the world to see. Search "Lake Cahuilla Proposal" including the quote marks.

Speculation. The Salton Sea and its environs have been studied since at least 1975 because of the increasing salinity and uncertain size of the Sea. Imagine that it had been known since then that starting in 2007 the Sea would gradually be returned to the salinity it had in 1905 and could be maintained at an elevation of about -227 feet below mean sea level. An interesting question is how many hundreds of thousands of dollars would then need not have been spent. And looking forward, based on the same premise, how sad would it be to some interest groups that the proposed $2.3 billion to $5.9 billion in today's dollars would not be spent? Is this why our Lake Cahuilla Proposal is deemed not to exist? Because there would be no need for the make-work jobs? Extrapolating this, is this why for the SNWA we seem not to exist and planning continues for a $3 billion invasive pipeline complex to heist water from rural Nevada which another plan of ours could provide profitably?

One more thing. Recently we have made a limited inspection of the Colorado River Delta, sufficient to reassure us that our expectations about the suitability of placing our Solar Power&Water systems there in sufficient numbers are correct. This backs up my claim made elsewhere that we could eventually enable scrapping the QSA, totally.

I wish the Salton Sea good luck. Its going to need it. Its future will be interesting.

Ccs as shown

Respectfully submitted,

RMb (cont.)

Richard A McKay
--
Richard A. McKay PhD richard@solarpowerandwater.com 805-441-1762
Solar Power&Water http://www.solarpowerandwater.com

Jan 9, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

The Salton Sea is part of a great treasure as well as a sacred part of wildlife and animal spirit here on this planet.As a native american i know in my bones that mother earth is crying for nurturing as well as love that she has been missing for many moons.Father sky will send thunder and storms,due to his rage against mankind and there destruction of the gift of this planet earth.Man kind lives blind,looks, but does not see with his heart or spirit,man kind lives as fools,this material world that is a false world will not live on foreever,as the next world in spirit will. I can only hope that you who have been put in this position of power can use your power wisely to save the Sea, the marine life and mother earth.Help to restore what has been taken by giving back to her ,trees,plants,animals,and love.Every action you take makes a difdference in the universe for there is 26 other dimensions.There is a mirror world in which you allready live in,without knowing.Please,wake up,stop being a part of the suffering and be a part of the solution by living on a Noble Path, which is your true Destiny. Goddess Koi Tek,Baby Choctaw and Sintollo

Sincerely,

teresa mason
1166 Nelrose Ave
Venice, CA 90291-5047

Teresa Mason (TM)

TM-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

You already know how crucial this lake is to the God-created wildlife. The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. I believe, as the last bastion of wildlife protections, any CA department privileged with the power must take a proactive action.

A Final Preferred Alternative would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

I firmly believe the state of California can take lead as a protector.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Yasuko Margolis
102 Jacqueline Ave
Delran, NJ 08075-2108

YM-1

Yasuko Margolis (YM)

YM-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: lani nestlen
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea
Date: Friday, January 05, 2007 11:32:27 PM
Attachments:

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I believe us humans are smart enough to realize whatever fate we give to wildlife or mother nature, is a fate that is inevidably our very own. Hopefully you make the right decision. Good luck, and may good prevail. Sincerely,
Lani Nestlen

Sincerely,

lani nestlen
6519 N Wilbur Ave
Portland, OR 97217-5248

LN-1

Lani Nestlen (LN)

LN-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

JAN 0 8 2007

ORMAT®

January 2, 2007

Mr. Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Chief
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Geothermal Energy and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Hoffman-Floerke:

ORMAT Technologies Inc. appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. ORMAT is an environmentally conscience company that is involved in developing alternative energy projects around the world. ORMAT develops and operates geothermal energy in the Western United States including the Imperial Valley. We believe geothermal is a valuable asset to the restoration program.

Geothermal energy could provide the power needed for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration and help to offset other operation and maintenance costs. Geothermal energy is currently a $1 billion tax asset, ($10 million in property taxes) in Imperial County and this could double just in the Salton Sea area. This includes the leases currently under the sea that cannot currently be accessed. Geothermal energy also currently provides $10 million per year to the county in royalties plus the benefits of good paying jobs in the valley. Unfortunately only Alternative 7 identifies geothermal energy as part of this important restoration program. **ON-1**

The use of geothermal energy as a local renewable resource should be considered in the section "Power Production and Energy Resources." It is really only evaluated as a loss and a detriment criterion, not as a benefit to this restoration effort. The amount of electricity needed for all of the alternatives would only be about 10% of one 50 MW geothermal power plant. In order to support the ongoing costs of any of these programs you will need revenues and these could be supported by revenues from the power plants that get built with property taxes and royalties. It would be a win-win for the county and the restoration program if developed in this matter. This would also add the employment new geothermal projects bring and the employment from the restoration project. **ON-2** **ON-3**

ORMAT Nevada
6225 Neil Road, Suite 300, Reno, NV, 89511 • Telephone (775) 356-9029 • Facsimile (775) 356-9039

ORMAT Nevada (ON)

ON-1

Chapter 21 of the Draft PEIR includes analysis of the potential for loss of access to geothermal resources at the Salton Sea. As identified in Chapter 21, all of the alternatives could provide for expanded geothermal values and Next Steps (i.e., mitigation measures) were identified and would include participation of the geothermal industry. The Next Steps identified in Chapter 21 include measures such as corridors for geothermal facilities or use of future technologies that would reduce impacts of the energy resource facilities on wildlife.

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative includes an area designated for geothermal development and additional coordination with the geothermal interests.

ON-2

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." Development of geothermal facilities is not one of the restoration program's statutory objectives.

ON-3

See response to comment ON-2. Development of geothermal facilities is outside of the scope of the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program, but could be conducted by others.

JAN 0 8 2007

Members of the geothermal industry are available to help with incorporation of this resource into the Salton Sea restoration program. I look forward to talking with you. Please contact me at 775-336-0155 to set up an appointment.

Sincerely,

Charlene L Wardlow

Charlene L. Wardlow
Environmental/Regulatory Affairs Administrator

cc: Dan Can, Salton Sea Authority
Senator Denise Ducheny
Larry Grogan, Supervisor
Brad Poiriez, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
Vince Signorotti, CalEnergy

2

ON (cont.)

December 15, 2006

Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento , CA. 95814

Attention: Dale Hoffman-Floerke

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I have reviewed the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program and offer the comments below:

First of all, I will present my background, because I have considerable experience (about 45 years) in this type of program while working for the Department of Water Resources, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board and some engineering consulting. I have worked on Lake Elsinore, several State Water Project Reservoirs and Lake Tahoe. A lot of my experience has been with grant funded projects and water quality planning.

I am a licensed Civil Engineer with a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering and a Community College Teaching Credential (taught water and wastewater classes on a part time basis).

I have only two comments and they are only partly technical because this is mainly a political problem.

1. Alternative 7 looks like the best of the alternatives because it incorporates aesthetic and recreational uses which are extremely important since without them the general public (taxpayer) will not support the large expenditures necessary. I believe, a project that protects, mainly, Pup Fish and birds that can fly about 70 miles to a bigger and better body of water, will not appeal to the public even though it may be less costly. The taxpayer will want to benefit from a more comprehensive program. **RNicklen-1**

2. The entire schedule should be moved up significantly, because there are severe problems occurring now and even with sustained inflows until year 2017 it is likely that there will be more dry years which will make the problem much worse. Delaying mayor construction for 10 to 15 years or more will make it more difficult to keep the funds budgeted. **RNicklen-2**

Sincerely,

Robert R. Nicklen

233 Serena Drive Palm Desert, CA. 92260

Phone (760) 568-6968

rnicklen@earthlink.net

Robert Nicklen (RNicklen)

RNicklen-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

RNicklen (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

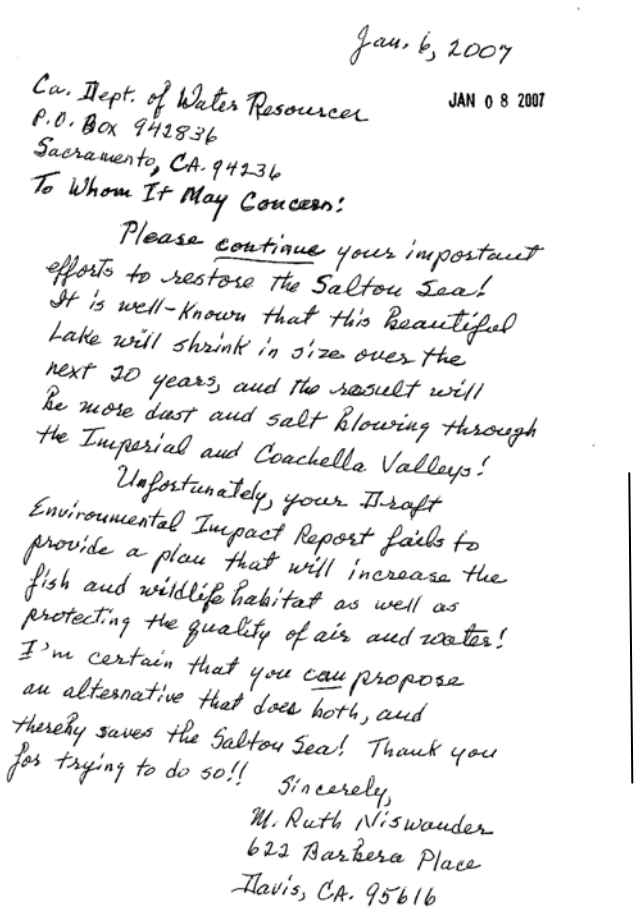
Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

RNicklen-2

The State recognizes the urgency of restoration. However, future implementation would require additional authorizing legislation and identification of an implementing agency. The Draft PEIR provides an anticipated schedule for design, permitting, and construction of the project. Due to the nature, size, and funding availability of the project along with the issues that need resolution, it is anticipated that construction could not begin until 2011.



Jan. 6, 2007

Ca. Dept. of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA. 94236

JAN 0 8 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Please continue your important efforts to restore the Salton Sea! It is well-known that this Beautiful Lake will shrink in size over the next 20 years, and the result will be more dust and salt blowing through the Imperial and Coachella Valleys!

Unfortunately, your Draft Environmental Impact Report fails to provide a plan that will increase the fish and wildlife habitat as well as protecting the quality of air and water! I'm certain that you can propose an alternative that does both, and thereby saves the Salton Sea! Thank you for trying to do so!!

Sincerely,
M. Ruth Niswander
622 Barbera Place
Davis, CA. 95616

RNiswander-1

Ruth Niswander (RNiswander)

RNiswander-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please help to protect the Salton Sea which is a habitat for wildlife. We need to keep the earth in balance not only for the wildlife but also for us and our grandchildren to come.
Thank you

Sincerely,

jackie otto
2103 E Huebbe Pkwy
Beloit, WI 53511-1846

JO-1

Jackie Otto (JO)

JO-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I'm sure you must have heard many many times by now the steps in the preferred alternative members of Defenders of Wildlife, like me, support. So I won't throw those same words at you. **NO-1**

The Salton Sea is one of the few things on this Earth that we have the power to protect - both for the habitat that needs it to exist and for our future generations to enjoy. The Earth is fighting so hard against us to keep the small things it still has, and I can't see why that should be. So let's make sure it's not.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nevi Ozturk
2115 Wiltshire Blvd
Huntington, WV 25701-5344

Nevi Ozturk (NO)

NO-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please help maintain the size of the Salton Sea, and I hope there are plans to clean up the New River, which I hear drains into it. Our wildlife has been under so much stress--give them a break!

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Unfortunately, most proposed alternatives in the PEIR fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in the Salton Sea area. The PEIR does, however, contain the components and information necessary to formulate a successful plan.

Sincerely, Carolyn Pankow

Please incorporate the following features into a final preferred alternative that would meet legal requirements for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

* Establish between 38,000 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

* Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

* Provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea (Similar to the proposals found in Alternatives 5-7);

* Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

* Construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and

* Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

CPankow-1

CPankow-2

Carolyn Pankow (CPankow)

CPankow-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."

Water quality improvements in the New River are outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

CPankow-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Pankow
725 Big Bend Dr
Pacifica, CA 94044-3804

CPankow (cont.)

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

please help these animals. they shouldn't be hurt. stop the violence. its cruel and mean.

Sincerely,

Courtney Pelle
4607 Wellington Ave
Parma, OH 44134-3557

CPelle-1

Courtney Pelle (CPelle)

CPelle-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing today to respectfully ask the California Department of Water Resources to restore the Salton Sea. Migratory birds depend on the Sea as an important stop for their migration. I am concerned about possible major losses for migratory bird populations, if they cannot have the Salton Sea as a migratory stop.
Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Julianne Pach
87 Frantzen Ter
Cheektowaga, NY 14227-3203

JP-1

Julianne Pach (JP)

JP-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Chicopapherps@aol.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 11:21:34 AM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration.

Over 400 bird species rely on the Salton Sea ecosystem, and public health depends on preventing dangerous dust pollution caused by a dry seabed. Restoration should provide the maximum feasible wildlife habitat, air, and water quality protection, as required by law.

Protection of at least 38,000 to 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in draft Alternatives 1 and 2, would go a long way toward that goal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Karen Porter
6168 Walnut Street
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-3092

KPa-1

Karen Porter (KPa)

KPa-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

Over 90 percent of the wetlands in California are gone, and the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go which could lead to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Please do everything possible to protect this important area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Porter
6168 Walnut St
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-3092

KPb-1

Karen Porter (KPb)

KPb-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

This is the only place these birds have to go to now. If you distroy the Salton Sea you it will mean death to most of these birds. Why can there not be a solution found that benefits everyone not just you??

Sincerely,

Samantha Pavia
415 S Sarah
Republic, MO 65738-2689

SPavial-1

Samantha Pavia (SPavia)

SPavia-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I'm very concerned about the consequences for the Salton Sea, and the birds & animals that depend on it, with current proposed legislation. Damage to the environment & the species are permanent, and I hope that you will consider this part of California & its residents (animals too) over a temporary financial fix.

Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

Sarah Peak
111 Carriage Hill Dr
Erlanger, KY 41018-2859

SPeak-1

Sarah Peak (SPeak)

SPeak-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

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- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

Personally, I think that humankind is taking away what shouldn't be taken away....life! By that I mean any kind of life....we need to have birds as well as wild animals. This is where "balance" comes into play. Please do what is right.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Faith Rosenzweig
311 Oaktree Dr
Levittown, PA 19055-1521

FR-1

Faith Rosenzweig (FR)

FR-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Fish Partners
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton PEIR
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 10:23:38 AM
Attachments:

January 16, 2007

Attn: Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floeke:

The PEIR calls for the interconnectivity of the local desert pup fish populations in the Imperial Valley. Yet it fails to note that this is a controversial topic among experts in the field. This omission should be addressed. Some benefits may accrue from interconnectivity of the populations; however, interconnectivity may also pose a serious threat to the population.

I believe interconnectivity of populations of desert pup fish should not be a priority or even a requirement. It imposes additional cost without clear benefits.
Sincerely,

George Ray,
Fish Producers, Inc.

GR-1

George Ray (GR)

GR-1

Populations of desert pupfish which occupy discrete inputs (drains and creeks) that flow into the Salton Sea are currently presumed connected as a single metapopulation which allows some level of gene flow among the populations. The most recent analysis of desert pupfish genetics supports this conclusion. Desert pupfish connectivity, as described in the Draft PEIR, would maintain, to varying degrees, the existing population connections.

While a fully connected population is susceptible to a certain level of risk from the rapid spread of diseases, parasites, and/or invasive species, maintaining the present connectivity of desert pupfish would not expose the species to a greater risk than it currently experiences. Without such connections, there is a risk that a single population could be extirpated during times of low or non-existent water, and would not be re-populated.

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea I would like to say: Please just do whatever you can to save these birds!! I really think these birds need help and they need it soon. I am writing this letter to just say my word. I'm just a teen but I care! I really care about the environment! So please do whatever you can!

HR-1

Sincerely,

Hailee Ra
srry I just want to help
Chattanooga, TN 37416

Hailee Ra (HR)

HR-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

It's insane to think of diverting water from the Salton Sea. PLEASE! Let's start doing some forward thinking to solve problems instead of the destructive business as usual--which always seems to create even more problems.

Our actions have so clearly done so much damage already to this planet, that to think of intentionally putting any more wildlife at risk is criminal. Doesn't anybody care anymore? What kind of world do you want to leave to your kids, and your grandkids.

Our officials and decision-makers should know better by now.

Sincerely,

Janis Reed
240A 28th St
San Francisco, CA 94131-2359

JReed-1
JReed-2

Janis Reed (JReed)

JReed-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." As described in Chapter 1 of the Draft PEIR, the Salton Sea Restoration Act and related legislation facilities implementation of the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project. Changes to the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project are outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

JReed-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

My husband and I spent a day of our honeymoon in 1989 at the Salton Sea to observe the migratory birds. I would like to think California can be habitat-minded enough to defend the Salton Sea, which is critical for migrating birds.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jo Ellen Ringer
PO Box 301
Middleton, ID 83644-0301

JRinger-1

Jo Ellen Ringer (JRinger)

JRinger-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I feel compelled to comment on the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

90% of California wetlands are gone, so migratory birds must depend on the Salton Sea. We must preserve the Salton Sea as a national treasure to protect birds and the communities in the surrounding area. The birds that take Pacific Flyway are of economic importance because of the growing number of birders who travel miles to observe the migratory spectacle.

From what I've been told, most proposed alternatives in the PEIR fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in the Salton Sea area.

Please work to maximize habitat, water and air quality while assuring that there will be ample recreational opportunities for nearby communities as well as travelers who come to enjoy the birds on the Flyway. Birders are a significant economic factor as has been found in coastal Texas in the Central Flyway. **MR-1**

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

MarySue Rose
12340 Alameda Trace Cir Apt 1802
Austin, TX 78727-7119

MarySue Rose (MR)

MR-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Patrick Russell (PR)

From: Patrick Russell
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Date: Monday, January 15, 2007 1:20:40 PM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 654-4925 FAX
SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

January 15, 2007

Dear Ms. Floerke:
Comments on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (SSERP) Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), October 2006
We are writing as concerned residents of the state of California to request that the Department of Water Resources produce a PEIR that includes a functional alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea, which is one of the most important biological resources in southern California,
The Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (SSERP) is a part of the Colorado River water transfer and Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA). The QSA requires preparation of the SSERP as well as other related actions that will collectively enable California to stay within its 4.4 million acre-feet annual appropriation of Colorado River water, allow transfer of water from Imperial Valley agricultural users to urban water users, and conserve/mitigate environmental resources of the Lower Colorado River, Imperial Valley, and Salton Sea.

The primary goal of the PEIR is to present a series of alternatives that provide the maximum feasible attainment of three key environmental objectives as specified in QSA-related State legislation:

- Restoration of long term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea.
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project to the extent feasible.
- Protection of water quality.

As recognized in the PEIR, with no restoration program the Salton Sea will gradually be reduced in size, resulting in hypersaline water quality, and exposing tens of thousands of acres of lake bed sediments. This would result in the decline and, ultimately loss of much of its fish populations and a significant diminishment in wildlife diversity and productivity. Further, windblown sediments from the exposed lake bed could result in adverse air quality effects that could affect human health and wildlife.
We believe that none of the current alternatives represents the maximum feasible achievement of the key environmental goals as well as provides a reasonable opportunity for adaptively managing the future Sea. A combination of the shallow saline habitat complex and concentric rings/lakes would best provide for the restoration of historic levels of fish and wildlife diversity based on the projected annual inflow of approximately 717,000 acre feet per year. The selected alternative must not rely solely on salt crust formation for providing long term air quality management and sufficient water must be provided to ensure that air quality can be addressed by measures such as water efficient vegetation.

PR-1

Project Alternatives

The eight alternatives presented in the PEIR represent a range of alternatives intended to feasibly attain most of the project objectives and avoid or lessen significant effects, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because this is a programmatic EIR, and due to the numerous

PR (cont.)

PR-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000 acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex including in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

PR (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

complexities, assumptions, and uncertainties involved with restoration of the Salton Sea, the alternatives incorporate various combinations of several conceptual habitat components: shoreline/shallow saline, shallow marine open water, deep marine open water, and snags/islands. These are not project-level alternatives, and a subsequent project-level analysis will need to be completed after the preferred alternative is identified in the Final PEIR.

The PEIR presents a Summary of Impacts and Benefits (Table 3-15) for each alternative, which identifies potentially significant impacts posed to one or more resource categories that are required to be analyzed pursuant to CEQA.

Selection of a preferred alternative should meet several criteria. These criteria include achievement of the key environmental objectives without impairing the water supply objectives of the QSA, flexibility to adaptively modify and manage future conditions at the Sea, and provide recreational and economic opportunities around the Sea. Alternatives that appear to pose potentially significant impediments to (or uncertainties with) meeting the key environmental objectives, have limited flexibility to adaptively modify and manage future conditions, require large costs relative to the benefits, or that place demands on water supplies that undermine the QSA, should be given low priority.

The alternatives are:

- Alternative 1 – Saline Habitat Complex I;
- Alternative 2 – Saline Habitat Complex II;
- Alternative 3 – Concentric rings;
- Alternative 4 – Concentric Lakes;
- Alternative 5 – North Sea (includes Saline Habitat Complex cells);
- Alternative 6 – North Sea Combined (includes Saline Habitat Complex cells);
- Alternative 7 – Combined North and South Lakes (includes Saline Habitat Complex cells);
- Alternative 8 – South Sea Combined (includes Saline Habitat Complex

PR-2

PR (cont.)

PR-2

The process and criteria for selecting the Preferred Alternative are described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR.

cells).

Alternative 1: This alternative would provide a 38,000-acre saline habitat complex in the southern end of the Sea, partial desert pupfish population connectivity, a brine sink, and air quality management components with brine stabilization and irrigation of water-efficient vegetation. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to support near-historic avian species' diversity and abundance with limited fish diversity and abundance. It would also provide a variety of recreational opportunities, but not marine sport fishing or motorized boating. Water along the southern shoreline would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to the agricultural lands. Project construction cost is estimated at $2.3 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $91 million (all costs reported in the PEIR are calculated in 2006 dollars).

This alternative does not appear to adequately address the key environmental objectives because fish and wildlife diversity and abundance are expected to be less than historic levels, nor would it provide physical connectivity among all desert pupfish populations. The saline habitat complex would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to the major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity, water exchange, and if needed, isolation of cells).

PR-3

Alternative 2: This alternative would provide a 75,000-acre saline habitat complex in the southern, western, and northern shorelines of the Sea, partial desert pupfish population connectivity, a brine sink, and air quality management components with brine stabilization and irrigation of water-efficient vegetation. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to support avian species' diversity and abundance above historic levels with limited fish diversity and abundance. It would also provide a variety of recreational opportunities, but not marine sport fishing or motorized boating. Water along the southern, western, and northern shorelines would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is estimated at $3.3 billion and annual

PR (cont.)

PR-3

Comments PR-3 through PR-10 provide a summary of the general attributes, benefits, and potential effects of each of the eight alternatives analyzed in the Draft PEIR, and serve as background and context for the recommendation of a preferred alternative presented in PR-11. This summary generally reflects the information contained in the Draft PEIR and provides a reasonably accurate characterization of each of the alternatives; however, several points of clarification are presented below.

The summarized descriptions of the alternatives in the comments provide interpretations of the performance of the alternatives relative to achieving the historic levels of fish and wildlife. The Draft PEIR presents information that projects, based on habitat modeling, how well selected bird species might be supported given the characteristics of the habitat in each of the alternatives. These projections provide an indication of the relative performance of the alternatives, but are not definitive regarding whether an alternative will support the historic levels of bird use at the Salton Sea. These results should be interpreted as indications of the likelihood that a given alternative would meet the objectives. Similarly, the analysis of fish diversity should not be interpreted as definitive. In the analysis, fish diversity relative to historic conditions assumes that that the alternatives that contain deep marine sea habitats would have a much higher likelihood of supporting historic fish diversity than alternatives that rely on habitats with shallower water. This assumption was based on the conditions at the Salton Sea when those fish species survived and were successfully reproducing.

operating cost is estimated at $107 million.

This alternative would support increased avian wildlife diversity and abundance compared to historic levels but fish diversity would be less than historic levels. It would not provide physical connectivity among all desert pupfish populations. The saline habitat complex would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to the major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity, water exchange, and if needed, isolation of cells).

PR-4

Alternative 3: This alternative would provide two shallow-moderate marine sea water bodies, a brine sink, desert pupfish population connectivity, and air quality management components with brine stabilization and irrigation of water-efficient vegetation. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to support avian species' diversity and abundance but below historic levels and limited fish diversity and abundance. It would also provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, but not marine sport fishing. Water along the entire historic shoreline would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is $4.9 billion and annual operating cost is $138 million.

This alternative would not support fish and wildlife diversity and abundance at historic levels, but it would provide physical connectivity among all desert pupfish populations. The concentric rings would provide a moderately flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to the major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the rings).

PR-5

Alternative 4: This alternative would provide up to four concentric lakes, a brine sink, connectivity among most desert pupfish populations; it does not provide for long term air quality management facilities. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to support avian species' diversity and

PR (cont.)

PR-4

See response to comment PR-3.

PR-5

See response to comment PR-3.

abundance above historic levels. Fish diversity would not meet historic levels but most desert pupfish populations would be connected. It is not consistent with the air quality analysis (Chapter 10) that assumed various treatments for 70 percent of the exposed playa; it does not present a long term air quality management solution. It would provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, but probably not marine sport fishing. Water along the southern and eastern historic shoreline would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is estimated at $2.3 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $20 million.

This alternative would support avian diversity and abundance above historic levels. Fish diversity would be below historic levels and the southern and northern desert pupfish populations would not be connected. The concentric lakes would provide a moderately flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to the major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the lakes). According to the PEIR (Chapter 10,Table 10-15), this alternative would result in substantially higher emissive pollutants from the exposed playa than an other alternative, and up t five times more than the least-emissive alternatives.

Alternative 5: This alternative would provide a deep northern marine sea, saline habitat complex in the southern seabed, a brine sink, partial desert pupfish population connectivity, and air quality management with brine stabilization and irrigation of water efficient vegetation. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to provide avian species' diversity and abundance above historic levels and possibly fish diversity and abundance comparable to historic levels. Desert pupfish would exist as three separate populations. It would provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, probably including marine sport fishing. Water along the southern and northern historic shorelines would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is

PR-6

PR (cont.)

PR-6

It is unclear how the statement made in PR-6 regarding the relative performance of Alternative 4 with regard to playa emissions (i.e., "up to five times more emissive than the least emissive alternatives") was derived. Table 10-15 of the PEIR indicates that fugitive dust emissions (PM10) during Phase IV would be above, but near the levels associated with the No Action under alternatives 1, 2, and 8. Alternatives 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 would be about 2, 25, 5, 5, and 15 times greater than projected emissions under the No Action.

estimated at $4.5 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $134 million.

This alternative would support avian diversity and abundance above historic levels. Fish diversity (it is unclear regarding abundance) could be comparable to historic levels. However, a northern marine sea will be much smaller than the historic sea, and it is likely to become thermally stratified more often, creating water quality conditions that could lead to more frequent fish and invertebrate die-offs. The southern and northern desert pupfish populations would not be connected. The saline habitat complex portion of the alternative would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to a major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the lakes). However, creating a smaller marine sea requires construction of a massive, permanent barrier across the existing seabed. This would probably eliminate any significant future construction modifications and limit operational modifications.

PR-7

Alternative 6: This alternative would provide a deep northern marine sea and a smaller, shallower southern marine sea; a brine sink, a saline habitat complex in the southern seabed; partial desert pupfish population connectivity; and, air quality management with brine stabilization and irrigation of water efficient vegetation. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to provide avian species' diversity and abundance slightly above historic levels and possibly fish diversity and abundance comparable to historic levels. Desert pupfish would exist as three separate populations. It would provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, probably including marine sport fishing. Water along the southern, western, and northern historic shorelines would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is estimated at $5.9 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $149 million.

This alternative would support avian diversity and abundance at or slightly above historic levels. Fish diversity (it is unclear regarding abundance)

PR-8

PR (cont.)

PR-7

See response to comment PR-3.

PR-8

See response to comment PR-3.

could be comparable to historic levels. As with Alternative 5, a northern marine sea will be much smaller than the historic sea, and it is likely to become thermally stratified more often, creating water quality conditions that could lead to more frequent fish and invertebrate die-offs. The southern sea may experience stratification and die-offs more frequently than historically occurred. Two southern populations and one northern population of desert pupfish would not be connected. The saline habitat complex portion of the alternative would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to a major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the lakes). However, creating two smaller marine seas requires construction of massive, permanent barriers across the existing seabed. This would probably eliminate any significant future construction modifications and limit operational modifications.

Alternative 7: This alternative would provide a large, deep northern marine sea and a smaller, shallower southern marine sea; a freshwater reservoir operated by IID; a brine sink; a saline habitat complex in the southeastern seabed and small northern complex; partial desert pupfish population connectivity; and, air quality management with brine stabilization. The primary benefit of this alternative (similar to Alternative 6) would be to provide avian species' diversity and abundance but below historic levels and possibly fish diversity and abundance comparable to historic levels. Desert pupfish would exist as two separate populations. It would provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, probably including marine sport fishing. Water along much of the historic shoreline would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is estimated at $5.2 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $82 million.

This alternative would support avian diversity and abundance, but below historic levels. Fish diversity (it is unclear regarding abundance) could be comparable to historic levels. As with Alternatives 5 and 6, a northern marine sea will be much smaller than the historic sea, and it is likely to become thermally stratified more often, creating water quality conditions that could lead to more frequent fish and invertebrate die-offs. However, the

PR-8 cont.

PR-9

PR (cont.)

PR-9

Comment PR-9 suggests the need for clarification on the Freshwater Reservoir in Alternative 7 and questions whether the barrier for the reservoir was considered in the cost estimates. The embankment for the Freshwater Reservoir was included in the cost estimate contained in the Draft PEIR (Table H7-19 on page 96 of Appendix H-7).

Comment PR-9 also raises concerns about the potential for increased avian disease resulting from the increased availability of freshwater. While the alternatives were designed to maintain salinity levels that would discourage the development of some avian diseases (e.g., avian botulism), insufficient information on the design and operation of the reservoir was available to fully analyze the influence of the reservoir on avian diseases. This analysis would be conducted at a project level.

larger size may partly offset the increased stratification. This alternative requires more inflow than the PEIR's calculated average inflow to meet marine sea elevation and salinity objectives by the end of the project evaluation period (2078). Because the shoreline and salinity objectives cannot be met during the project period, the resulting biological values would be lower than projected. The southern sea may experience stratification and die-offs more frequently than occurred historically.

The freshwater reservoir, as depicted in the PEIR, does not appear to incorporate a major barrier that would be needed. Also, it is not apparent if the construction cost includes this major barrier. One concern about a freshwater reservoir is its potential for supporting wildlife diseases. One of the water quality objectives of the SSERP is to minimize creating conditions that could promote diseases, and all of the other water bodies are planned to have water at or above a salinity of 20,000 mg/l. Lower salinity water in and around the Sea has been implicated as a primary condition leading to wildlife disease outbreaks. Most of the desert pupfish populations would be connected, except for the southeastern drains.

Unlike all the other alternatives (except Alternative 4), this alternative does not include alternative methods such as the use of water efficient vegetation to stabilize emissive soils of the exposed playa. Instead, it proposes to address air quality by creating a salt crust over the exposed playa. This poses a potential concern if the salt crust method cannot be solely utilized to address long term air quality management, particularly if additional irrigation water is needed to stabilize soils. According to the PEIR (Chapter 10, Table 10-15), this alternative would produce several times more emissive pollutants off the exposed playa than most other alternatives (except Alternative 4, which produces even greater emissions).

The saline habitat complex portion of the alternative would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to a major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the lakes). However, creating two

PR-9 cont.

PR (cont.)

smaller marine seas requires construction of massive, permanent barriers across the existing seabed. This would probably eliminate any significant future construction modifications and limit operational modifications. As noted above, this alternative also raises concerns about whether inflows will be sufficient to fully implement the marine sea objectives and air quality needs.

Alternative 8: This alternative would provide a small, shallow northern marine sea and a larger, deep southern marine sea; a brine sink; a saline habitat complex in the southeastern and southwestern seabed; partial desert pupfish population connectivity; and, air quality management with brine stabilization. The primary benefit of this alternative would be to provide avian species' diversity and abundance but below historic levels and possibly fish diversity and abundance comparable to historic levels. Desert pupfish would be connected except for the Salt Creek population. It would provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities, probably including marine sport fishing. Water along the southern historic shoreline, and to a lesser extent along the northern shoreline, would minimize changes to the microclimate and aesthetic values adjacent to these areas. Project construction cost is estimated at $5.8 billion and annual operating cost is estimated at $145 million.

This alternative would support avian diversity and abundance, but below historic levels. Fish diversity (it is unclear regarding abundance) could be comparable to historic levels. The small, shallow northern marine sea may not stratify frequently, but the southern marine sea is likely to thermally stratify, although possibly less often than under historic conditions. The saline habitat complex portion of the alternative would provide a flexible construction approach that could accommodate construction and operational changes to a major habitat component (allowing for control of salinity and water exchange rates in the lakes). However, creating two smaller marine seas requires construction of massive, permanent barriers across the existing seabed. This would probably eliminate any significant future construction modifications and limit operational modifications.

PR-9 cont.

PR-10

PR (cont.)

PR-10

See response to comment PR-3.

Recommendation:

The draft PEIR identifies the historical, current, and potential future conditions of the Salton Sea. It identifies wide range of potentially acceptable alternatives and the analyses of these alternatives is clear and adequate for a programmatic document. However, based on the above review, none of the alternatives appears to meet the key environmental objectives, the need for flexibility to adaptively manage the future Sea, and to provide (not at the expense of the two previous critical criteria) reasonable recreational and economic benefits. The large sea component forces a permanent physical construction that could not be modified if the future lake did not function as hoped. Also, this component presents a significant risk of stratification that could greatly reduce the anticipated benefits to fish and wildlife. Based on the assumptions and analysis in the PEIR, an alternative that does not propose to allocate a portion of the water budget for long term air quality management presents an unacceptably high risk of future air quality problems.

PR-11

The preferred alternative should be a combination of the shallow saline habitat complex and the concentric ring/lake components to provide the maximum feasible restoration of historic fish and wildlife resources. The concentric rings/lakes could be configured to provide greater recreational opportunities and retain aesthetic/visual values by expanding the width of the outside ring/lake in certain areas). A long term air quality management component (with an assured, reserved water allocation) must be included in the preferred alternative.

Thank you for considering our comments and recommendations for developing an alternative that could meet the critical criteria for a functional solution to the restoration of the Salton Sea.

Sincerely,
Patrick and Karoly Russell
4678 Muir Avenue
San Diego, CA 92107

PR (cont.)

PR-11

See response to comment PR-1.

From: Robert
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea PEIR
Date: Friday, January 12, 2007 9:10:44 PM
Attachments:

Re: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Dear Mr. Dale Hoffman-Floerke:

The following comments are submitted:

Page ES-9 Saline Habitat Complex, second sentence: Please insert the words "or dikes" after the word "berms" **RRobinson-1**

Page ES-9 Moderately Deep Marine Sea, third sentence: Please insert the words "or dikes" after the word "geotubes" **RRobinson-2**

Pages ES-14, ES-15, ES-16, ES-17, ES-18, ES-19, ES-20, ES-21, last paragraph on each of these pages: Please insert the word "aquaculture," after the word "hunting" **RRobinson-3**

Page 8-13, Wetlands, second sentence: Please insert the words "private research facilities," after the words "diked wetlands" **RRobinson-4**

Page 8-19, Berms and Saline Habitat Complex Features: Please insert the words "or dikes" after the word "Berms" in the first sentence of both paragraphs. **RRobinson-5**

No further comment

Respectfully,

Robert Robinson
K and R Ranch
P.O. Box 476

Robert Robinson (RRobinson)

RRobinson-1

As described in Appendix H-6, berms contain water that is less than 6 feet in depth whereas dikes contain water that between 6 to 10 feet in depth.

RRobinson-2

As described in Appendix H-6, Geotubes® are encased in berms that contain water that is less than 6 feet in depth.

RRobinson-3

This change has not been made to the Draft PEIR because aquiculture a purpose of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program and is not anticipated to be included in the Saline Habitat Complex areas.

RRobinson-4

This change has not been made to the Draft PEIR because private research facilities are not a purpose of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program and are not anticipated to be included in the Saline Habitat Complex areas.

RRobinson-5

See response to comment RRobinson-1.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea, I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. The condition of the sea not only effects an important migratory bird stopover, but also the health, industry, and well being of the entire surrounding community. **RR-1**

I won't bore you with statistics you've read in 100 other emails and are well aware of but I will say that habitats are vanishing and with them whole ways of life. This is not only true for our wild friends but also for the community that loses it's fishing, recreation and even endangers their health by just dipping a toe in the waters.

You know what's right and what needs to be done to correct the issues before it becomes a moot point and the area becomes a barren contaminated landscape of value to noone--human or animal.. I have every confidence that you'll find a way.

Good luck in the journey,
R Kathleen M Rooney

Sincerely,

R. Kathleen M. Rooney
5755A Erne Ave
Ewa Beach, HI 96706-3255

R. Kathleen M. Rooney (RRooney)

RRooney-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Ron Rubin
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Draft PEIR
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 6:42:10 AM
Attachments:

Att: Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
I fully support the position presented by the Imperial County Farm Bureau.
Thank you for your work on this project.
Ron Rubin
375 S. Rio Vista
Brawley, CA 92227

RRubin-1

Ron Rubin (RRubin)

RRubin-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Water diversion plans could cause the Salton Sea to evaporate away,devastating migratory bird populations. Over the next two decades, this 360-square-mile lake will decrease by 30 percent -- rapidly shrinking vital wildlife habitat and increasing the amount of dust and salt that blows through the surrounding communities. With over 90 percent of California's wetlands gone, the Salton Sea has become an important stopping point for over 400 species of birds--millions of individuals--migrating up and down the Pacific Coast. Millions of migratory birds -- including the imperiled brown pelican, Yuma clapper rail and the western snowy plover--depend on the Sea as a vital stopover for their migration.

A plan that takes parts of the report's alternatives would provide the best path to restoring wildlife habitat while adequately protecting air and water quality for the surrounding communities. **SRaynor-1**

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Raynor
217 S Lee St
Falls Church, VA 22046-3925

Susan Raynor (SRaynor)

SRaynor-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: srogers647@aol.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea EIR
Date: Saturday, November 11, 2006 8:03:14 PM
Attachments:

Sirs:

Please do not spend money and water resources on any attempt to save the Salton Sea. It is an increasingly polluted and ultimately doomed man-made cesspool. Let nature take its course. The sooner it dries up and blows away the better. Your restoration options are too expensive in the face of society's other pressing needs, and in the long run they will be futile.

Spend your money on cleaning up sources of pollution such as the New River and agricultural runoff. Save our water resources for an increasingly thirsty population.

Stephen Rogers
San Diego

SRogers-1

Stephen Rogers (SRogers)

SRogers-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."

Water quality in the New River and in agricultural runoff is outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a believer in the premise that "once our birds and animals are gone, so are we," I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

Save what you have in regard to wetlands in a way that protects your wildlife and water fowl. I'm so surprised to here that California, of all places, needs any kind of awareness reminder of this sort. It is a State that typically leads all others on progressive and environmentally friendly legislation and development. So what is going on here? Be the California that makes us all pround that there is at least one place in America that does not bow to the interests of commercialism and blind expansion.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Theresa Rohloff
101 Nickland Dr
Scott, LA 70583-5653

TR-1

Theresa Rohloff (TR)

TR-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.